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UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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ABSTRACT OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

IF the official year of the Society which has now expired, has not been so fruitful of great events, in relation to the anti-slavery cause, as some of those which have preceded it, it has not terminated, the Committee rejoice to say, without leaving behind it substantial proofs of its progress and triumphs.

THE AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE.

Whatever checks this atrocious traffic may, from time to time, have experienced, it is nevertheless true that it is pursued with an energy and success which prove at once the inveteracy of the evil, and the inefficiency of the means hitherto employed for its suppression. The great slave markets in the Western world still continue to be the Spanish colonies and Brazil; and in the Eastern—Egypt, Turkey, Persia, Arabia, and India. To supply them with victims, every part of Africa, from the interior to the coast, accessible to the slave-dealer, is ravaged. From the Western and Eastern coasts of that continent the Spanish colonies and Brazil draw their supplies. The markets in the Levant and Turkey rely chiefly on Northern Africa. Egypt depends on Sennar, Kordofan, and other negro states contiguous to its territories. Persia, and other slave-purchasing states, on Zanzibar, and other parts of the territories of the Imaum of Muscat; and on the marauding Arab chiefs, who occupy the line of coast bordering on the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. It were a vain attempt on the part of the Committee to convey to the minds of their friends an adequate idea of the extent and horrors of the slave-trade. It may be sufficient, however, to observe that Africa is annually robbed of from 300,000 to 400,000 of her children, to glut the cupidity, or minister to the pride and luxury of nominal Christians, and the followers of the false prophet—that two-thirds of this mighty host perish by fire and sword in their original capture; by privation and fatigue, in their transit to the coast; and by disease and death, in their most horrible forms, during the middle passage: and that the remainder are sold into perpetual slavery, and subjected, with their offspring in perpetuity, to all the revolting incidents of that degraded state.

Amidst the gloom created by the contemplation of this mass of wretchedness and crime, it is cheering to find, as the result of the past labours of Christian philanthropists, that the slave-trade is openly condemned by every community which has the least pretension to civilization.

By many of the great states of Europe and America it has been declared piracy, and by all a crime deserving heavy punishment; and although the flags of some of these nations are occasionally employed in covering this detestable traffic, it is not carried on at present to supply their colonies and territories, with the exception of Brazil, Spain, and Portugal. These powers, in contravention of their own laws, and the solemn stipulations of treaties, foster the slave-trade, and are not ashamed to have recourse to frauds of the most unwarrantable character, in their diplomatic intercourse with this country, to veil the part they take in the nefarious traffic.

In connection with the means used by this country for the suppression of the contraband trade in slaves, there has arisen a question of great delicacy and importance, namely, the right of search, which has been the occasion of much irritating controversy, and is now the subject of grave, though amicable, deliberation between Great Britain and France. Commissioners have been appointed to devise measures, if they can be discovered, more efficacious for the suppression of the slave-trade, than those which already exist. The Committee, feeling the subject to be of the last importance to the anti-slavery cause, and probably to the peace of countries with whom Great Britain has treaties for the suppression of the slave-trade, have laid before the Government their deliberate views respecting it. In the memorial which contained those views, they have pointed out the imperfections of the existing treaties—the continued bad faith of several Powers in their non-execution—the vast expenditure of treasure and life incurred in the attempt to give them effect—and the want of success which has followed the prodigious efforts which have been made,—for the painful fact still remains, that, without having materially, if at all, diminished the extent, the armed suppression of the traffic has really added to its horrors. The large experience which the people of this country have had of the inefficiency, not to say impolicy, of this mode of suppression, warranted the Committee in suggesting to the Government the propriety of directing all its energies against slavery, the great cause of the slave-trade; for they felt that so long as the market for slaves was open, the evil would continue; and that the vigilance, enterprise, and skill of the British cruisers, would be overmatched by the cunning, fraud, and audacity of the slave-traders. What may be the result of the present negotiations cannot, of course, be conjectured; the Committee

would indulge the hope, however, that the distinguished men who are conducting it may be led to recommend such wise and pacific means of suppression as will greatly facilitate the ultimate object which the nations they represent have in view.

SLAVERY.

The Committee would venture to recall the attention of their friends to the vast extent of negro slavery in the New World, with a view of stirring them up to renewed exertion in the sacred cause of human freedom.

In Brazil, there are at least	2,500,000	slaves
United States.....	2,750,000	"
Spanish Colonies	800,000	"
French Colonies	250,000	"
Dutch, Danish, and Swedish Colonies	100,000	"
South American Republic	400,000	"
Texas	30,000	"

Total..... 6,830,000

The laws regulating the condition of slaves are of the most atrocious description. They are everywhere treated as the absolute property of their masters, and their slavery is declared to be perpetual and hereditary. Their food, shelter, clothing, and punishments, are practically discretionary; and the protection which the law is said to give their lives is nominal only; they may be tortured, mutilated, and slain, by their owners with impunity, provided they take the necessary precaution of perpetrating their atrocious deeds in the presence of slaves only, for their evidence is in no case taken against them though it may be against each other. Their labour is coerced, and is frequently lengthened out to so great an extent, especially during the season of crop, as not only to exhaust their physical strength, but to destroy their lives. Hence we find it stated, on undoubted authority, that the deaths among the slave population of Brazil, are at least five per cent. per annum over the births, whilst, in the island of Cuba, they reach as high as from seven to eight per cent. per annum. This dreadful waste of human life, combined with the increasing demand for tropical productions, in various parts of the world, is the cause which stimulates the slave-trade, and renders it, probably, with all its drawbacks and dangers, the most profitable, as well as the most guilty, trade in the world.

Nor is the slave merely subjected to a life of toil, privation, and punishment. His social feelings are continually outraged. In his case the marriage tie is either not admitted, or totally disregarded. His wife may at any time, or for any purpose, be sold from him. Violence is continually done to the parental relations; the children of slaves are not their own, they are chattels personal in the hands of their masters, and the heart of the mother is often wrung with anguish by forcible separation from them, or by being compelled to witness cruelties and wrongs inflicted on them which she dare not resent because she is powerless to defend. Moreover, by this brutalizing system the mental faculties are stunted in their growth, and the moral nature of the slave injured and degraded. To keep the light of knowledge from his mind, and to deaden his sensibilities are necessary to the existence of slavery, and hence we find the penalty of death and other heavy penalties inflicted, for teaching a slave the use of letters. But the evils of slavery do not terminate here—they re-act on the free population of the countries in which it exists. The master as well as the slave, is demoralized by it, and often he is the most degraded of the two. This is the present penalty for the crime. It is impossible to exaggerate the evils of slavery. In the language of one of its most vigorous and eloquent opposers, "Slavery is the most accursed and unnatural production of crime, and the most frightful source of human misery; it degrades the slave not more than it degrades the master. It is the deadly upas tree under which

' All life dies, death lives, and nature breeds
Perverse, all monstrous, all prodigious things;
Abominable, unutterable, and worse
Than fables yet have feign'd or fear conceived.' "

If, with the exception of the United States, there is no organized party in favour of the abolition of slavery in those countries in which it exists, it is satisfactory to know that it is regarded by the more intelligent portion of their people as a deadly evil, and is justified solely on the plea of necessity. Few men are found bold enough to undertake its defence, and fewer still dare plead for its continuance, in the face of the enlightened moral sentiment and religious conviction which so extensively prevail among free men. Besides which, the danger, ever present, and in some cases, imminent, which attends this violation of human rights and feelings, is deepening the conviction, that it is an institution which must sooner or later come to an end. How important, then, are anti-slavery exertions in this and other countries, by which it is sought to bring

this dire scourge and crime of the human race to a speedy and peaceful termination.

HOME OPERATIONS.

In their last Report, the Committee, after having announced the gratifying fact, that the East India Directors and her Majesty's Government had sanctioned the act of the Governor-General in Council, of India, for the abolition of slavery in that part of the British dominions, stated it to be the duty of the Society to see that the emancipated slaves were as free, *in fact*, as they had been declared free by law. The information they have hitherto obtained, in answer to letters of inquiry and instructions forwarded to every part of India to which they had access, is of a mixed character. Except in the Tenasserim provinces, and in portions of the Madras Presidency, they cannot find that the bulk of the population, in whose liberty and welfare they feel the deepest interest, have yet obtained the knowledge of the fact, that they are free. Of course, their late owners will not inform them that their power and authority over them has terminated, but the contrary. It, therefore, becomes the duty of the Government, through its subordinate officers, to take the necessary steps for proclaiming, in every village, town, and city, in every section, district, and division, of the three Presidencies, "Liberty to all the inhabitants of the land." The Committee have taken measures for the accomplishment of this great object, which they hope will be successful.

HONG-KONG.

The Committee are now able to congratulate their friends that the system of slavery which existed at this British settlement has been completely abolished. The act of the local Government was passed on the 28th February, 1844, and appears admirably adapted to secure the object proposed. The Committee anticipate the best results from this act, as it cannot fail to excite the attention of the more intelligent portion of the Chinese, and be fruitful of good in the way of example to the whole of the Chinese empire. The cause of freedom and humanity is indebted for this act to the late Governor of Hong-Kong, Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart.

EMIGRATION TO THE BRITISH EMANCIPATED COLONIES.

This question has engaged a large share of the Committee's attention during the past year; and they are convinced, by the facts which have occurred, of the soundness of their views respecting it, and of the duty of every member of the Society to offer it his most strenuous opposition.

EMIGRATION OF INDIAN LABOURERS TO MAURITIUS.

The number of Coolies introduced into Mauritius, from the 1st January, 1843, to 31st March, 1844, amounted to 41,156; of these 35,177 were males, 4,530 were females, and 1,449 were children. The proportion of the sexes seems about 12 women to 100 men. These Indians were introduced under the auspices of the British Government; and special guarantees were given that the abuses which had so much disgraced the preceding scheme of immigration into that island should be fully provided against, and that due protection should be given to the immigrants.

Instead, however, of this having been the case, we learn, that from alleged want of comprehension on the part of the Indian Government, and the pressing exigencies of the Mauritian planters, the system of private agency was allowed, and the Coolies were collected by crimps and duffadars, after the old fashion, and the old abuses prevailed. At length, when the Governor of Mauritius found the colonial treasury empty, these abuses claimed his serious attention, and he despatched an agent to India to confer with the authorities there about a remedy. New regulations have been deemed indispensable; and under these the Government intend to allow the annual exportation of 6,000 Coolies, exclusive of women and children. From the period when those regulations went into effect until the 30th September, 1844, 2,493 additional Coolies were imported, of whom 1,935 were males, 355 females, and 203 children. To show how serious an evil the local authorities have found the disparity of the sexes to be, they have arranged that in future the premium upon the introduction of men shall be 5*l.* 5*s.* per head only, and upon women 7*l.* 10*s.* The Committee forbear to remark on the deep moral degradation resulting from this system of emigration, and of the culpability of all parties who have sanctioned and supported it.

The mortality connected with this Coolie trade has been frightful. According to returns laid before Parliament it appears that 480 died on the passage, 154 in hospital shortly after arrival, and 3,288 on the estates, within a period of twenty-one months from the re-opening of the traffic, during the whole of which the importation was going on. It is impossible to contemplate this waste of human life without a shudder.

But not content with the number of Coolies introduced since the year 1834, which cannot have fallen far short of 100,000 in all, the legislative council of Mauritius have enacted a law for the importation, under the license of the Governor, of negroes from all parts of the coast of Africa, not within British jurisdiction. Of course they are to be free labourers, but where on the eastern coast of Africa, for it is hardly to be presumed that they will visit the west, can they obtain free men? The Committee assert, nowhere. Such being the case, they ask, "Will the people of this country consent to re-open the African slave-trade with Mauritius?" The question now submitted is a grave one, and the Committee trust that such an answer will be given to it as will convince the Mauri-

tians that they will not be permitted to brave the Christian philanthropy of the country with impunity.

JAMAICA, BRITISH GUIANA, AND TRINIDAD.

The number of labourers obtained by these colonies from different parts of Europe and America, as well as from the smaller West India islands, since the period of emancipation, not having satisfied them, permission was granted these colonies by the Government to obtain an additional supply from the British settlements on the western coast of Africa; chiefly, however, from Sierra Leone. But notwithstanding all the aid which the Government has given them, the number of emigrants who have been willing to resort to them has been limited, whilst the expense of their removal has been great. Finding that the supply from this quarter was likely to be precarious, the West Indians directed their attention to others—and obtained authority from Government to import Chinamen and Coolies. Licenses have been granted to nine West India houses to import 2,550 Chinese into the three colonies, as a first experiment; but as the risk and expense connected with the operation were likely, in the first instance, to be borne by them, it is understood that this part of the emigration scheme has been abandoned. At the same time the Government engaged to allow 12,500 Coolies to be introduced into the three colonies before named, on the bounty system, if certain preliminary arrangements were made, which were deemed indispensable by the Government. British Guiana and Trinidad have complied with these demands, and will receive their quota of immigrants if they can be shipped within the time specified by the Government. Jamaica has, however, only given a conditional guarantee, and whether any Coolies will be sent to that colony is somewhat doubtful. In each of the colonies, especially Jamaica and British Guiana, considerable opposition has been made to the introduction of immigrants, and especially of Indian immigrants, at the public expense. The tax-payers of these colonies feel, and the Committee think justly, that the parties to be benefited by the arrangement should bear the whole of the expense attendant upon it. Besides which, they think that the introduction of masses of men, and these mere sensualists and idolators, is likely to prove seriously injurious to the well-being of the lately emancipated classes in the highest and best sense of the word. It must be further observed, on this subject, that the Government contemplate the carrying on of this scheme of immigration on a gigantic scale, and have, therefore, authorized the colonies to pass ordinances for raising loans in this country, under the guarantee of Parliament, to the extent of 1,500,000*l.* British Guiana and Trinidad have passed ordinances, the former for raising 500,000*l.*, and the latter 250,000*l.*, to be repaid, with the interest accruing thereon for a period of twenty-five years, out of the duties on exports, which have probably received the Royal assent. The Jamaica legislature does not seem inclined to follow the example, and to entail a heavy debt on the colony, which is sure to be increased, when it is problematical whether more of evil than of good will not result from the proposed scheme. The Committee regret to say that, as in the case of Mauritius, so also in that of the British West Indies and Guiana, the question of a due proportion of the sexes is left entirely open. In the memorials they have presented, and the interviews they have had with Government on this important subject, they have set forth in detail the invincible objections they entertain against the whole scheme of immigration; and have endeavoured to enlist the active efforts of their friends throughout the country against any legislative measure which should give it any further sanction or support.

THE WEST INDIA COLONIES.

Notwithstanding the sinister predictions of the enemies of emancipation, and the serious errors which have been committed by the planters, in their dealings with their former slaves, it is believed that the colonies are steadily though slowly advancing in prosperity. The want, however, of an enlightened resident proprietary body, of improved modes of agriculture, and of capital, is a very serious drawback on that prosperity. Coupled with this is the heavy expenditure of the Colonies, which is found to press with great severity on the labouring classes, who contribute largely and unequally to the taxes.

The general account of the conduct of the emancipated peasantry continues to be highly satisfactory. Their improvement in knowledge, character, and respectability, is steady.

One event, however, of a painful character, has occurred, to break the general tranquillity of the colonies, during the past year, namely, the riots in Dominica. These were occasioned by the fears entertained by the peasantry, that the taking of the number of the population, under the Census act, was to be followed by their reduction to slavery. Without going into the details of this painful affair, which led to the proclamation of martial law, and to many revolting excesses, on the part of the island militia, it is established, beyond doubt, that great blame attaches to the authorities, for not having taken the precaution to disabuse the minds of the people of their false impressions previously to the census being taken. Had this been done, there can be no doubt the people would have quietly submitted to the operation of the law in the disturbed districts, as they did, in fact, in those parts of the colony where the necessary pains were taken.

It is a melancholy fact, that the spirit of colonial vengeance followed the rioters who were captured and brought to trial. One of them was found guilty, and executed without delay, for an offence which, in a British court of justice, would scarcely have been

regarded other than an assault. To the Committee, it is quite clear that a most vigilant eye must be kept on the proceedings of the colonies, and they trust that the steps which they have taken in this affair, have not been without beneficial results.

LEGISLATION IN THE COLONIES.

The Committee have already adverted to the immigration loan ordinances which have been passed by British Guiana and Trinidad. These were most objectionable in principle, and likely to prove unjust and onerous in operation. But these have been followed, in Trinidad, by other ordinances, which, if allowed by her Majesty in council, will place the labouring population completely within the power of their employers. By these enactments the summary powers of the stipendiary magistrates, in all cases involving questions between masters and servants, are practically done away, and appeal courts constituted for the benefit of the former, and against the latter. Besides which, they give the local magistrates concurrent jurisdiction with the stipendiary magistrates, and thereby render the appointment of that body a nullity. These enactments, moreover, entirely alter the contract law which had been in force in the colony; and which was alike protective, when faithfully executed, of the native labourer and the imported immigrant. The Committee have pointed out the true character of these ordinances to the Colonial Minister, and have suggested their disallowment as an act of justice to the labouring population. There is a strong desire, on the part of the planters, to supersede covertly where they cannot do it openly, the authority of the stipendiary magistrates, and to establish their own. Looking at the power which they all at present possess in the colonial legislatures and councils, they cannot but regard these encroachments on the administration of the laws with dread.

THE SUGAR QUESTION.

In consequence of the circumstances which took place at the last Annual Meeting of the Society, the Committee summoned a special general meeting of its members to be holden at Exeter-hall, on Monday, the 3rd of June, 1844, to consider the propriety of altering so much of its 4th rule as related to "the adoption of fiscal regulations in favour of free-labour." In answer to the summons, 153 members from various parts of the country attended at the place indicated, and after a full discussion of the whole subject, the rule was affirmed by a very large majority. The Committee need not dwell on the course which they have felt it to be their duty to pursue on this important question, beyond merely stating that whilst they have been most anxious to exclude from the British market every article of slave-produce, they have been equally solicitous that the free-produce of all nations should come in on equal terms with that from the British possessions and plantations abroad.

BRITISH SUBJECTS HELD IN SLAVERY.

The Committee had hoped to have been able to report favourably respecting this class of our fellow-subjects, some thousands of whom are held in slavery in foreign countries; but they deeply regret to say, that the exertions of British functionaries residing in Cuba and Surinam, have been paralyzed by the announcement, on the part of the Government, that the opinion of Her Majesty's Advocate-General is adverse to their claims to liberty. The bar to their freedom is declared to be the fact of their having been taken away from the British West Indies before the abolition of slavery. Now, without dwelling upon the fact that it was, by 46 Geo. III., c. 52, declared to be illegal to remove slaves from the British colonies, and that slaves so removed were forfeited to the Crown, which the Committee apprehend was the case with most if not all of these unhappy persons, a grave question arises,—In what relation they stood to the British Crown? If in the relation of subjects, then, as subjects, they can be demanded. It is manifest that, by the law of nations, neither Spain nor Holland could regard them as British slaves, or retain them in slavery on that ground. The Committee then ask whether they are to be abandoned, they and their offspring, to perpetual bondage? They cannot consent so to abandon them, and they trust the friends of the Society throughout the kingdom will aid them to break their yoke, and to restore them to their families and homes, exulting in their freedom, and enjoying the fruits thereof in peace.

LAWS IN FOREIGN STATES, AFFECTING THE RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES OF BRITISH SUBJECTS.

In the last Report of the Society attention was called to this class of laws which are in force in the slave sections of the United States. Hitherto the Committee have not been able to obtain a complete set of these laws; but they are warranted in affirming that the abolitionists of the United States will earnestly second their efforts to obtain their repeal. These laws equally affect the free coloured population of the free states, and the coloured classes of the British colonies; and are at variance with the constitution of the country and the treaties of Great Britain with it.

THE MORAVIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Committee rejoice to be enabled to report that, during the past year, all the slaves possessed by that body, in the Danish colonies have been set free; and they are led to believe, from recent communications with the heads of the missions at Hernhutt, that they have already taken measures for liberating those possessed by them in Surinam. The Committee would, however, remind them of the duty and importance of relieving themselves im-

mediately, and entirely, of all connection with the system of slavery wherever unhappily they are found associated with it.

FREE LABOUR CULTURE.

As the Committee have directed a vigorous opposition against every measure which would extend the cultivation of tropical productions by slave-labour, so have they felt it to be a duty to inquire by what means the cultivation of those productions may be increased by free labour. In addition to the British emancipated colonies, this country has a vast empire in India, and a teeming population. Every kind of product now grown by slaves can there be grown by freemen; for slavery in India no longer legally exists. Cotton, sugar, and rice can there be raised in illimitable quantities; and to that country the eye of every philanthropist must especially turn, as to the storehouse whence his most efficient weapons are to be drawn for the overthrow of slavery. The Committee have directed their close attention to this subject, and have collected a large array of facts, which prove that, if the restrictions which now affect the investment of capital, and the burdens which oppress labour, can be mitigated—or, what is better still, can be completely removed, an impetus will be given to production which would know no other limit than the power of consumption and the means of exchange. In this great question every class of British interest is involved; and here is common ground, on which to expend common energies, for the benefit of this country, and the welfare of mankind. The Committee hope the facts they have collected and arranged will speedily be laid before Government and the people of this country, and that it will be followed by the best results.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS.

THE UNITED STATES.

The past year has been fruitful of great events in the United States. On the one hand, there can be no doubt that the anti-slavery cause has made vast progress, whilst on the other, the slave-power has developed itself in the most formidable shapes. Possessing the highest offices in the Federal Government, it has abused its functions to sustain the institution of slavery within the States, and to extend its empire by the annexation of Texas. Contrary to the expectations of most men, the Senate, and the House of Representatives, have passed joint resolutions for the accomplishment of this nefarious purpose, which have received the sanction of the Executive, and all that is now required is to obtain the consent of Texas to the Union. In conjunction with the friends of freedom, in the United States, the Committee have used their best exertions, in every direction in which they conceived their labours might have weight, to prevent this terrible calamity to the human race. If, in the arrangements of Divine Providence, the annexation should be prevented, the days of American slavery are numbered; if, however, it should be permitted, the Committee would remember, that "the Lord reigneth," and that what is designed by the enemies of mankind to strengthen the institution of slavery, may prove, in the Divine hand, the means of its overthrow. It is cheering to know, that many of the most influential men in Texas, including the President and ex-President of the Republic, are against annexation, and that the efforts of the British, and, they trust, of the French Government also, will be put forth to prevent the final accomplishment of this evil deed.

At the late presidential election, that portion of the American abolitionists known by the name of the Liberty Party, cast upwards of 62,000 votes for the hon. J. B. Birney, on purely anti-slavery grounds. They have thus begun to feel their strength, and the value of their organization, and there can be but little doubt that their number and power will greatly increase under the existing state of things.

It is highly gratifying to be able to state, that the various sections of the Christian church in the United States are rapidly dissolving their connection with slavery, and in various emphatic forms, are entering their solemn protests against it. To this quarter, principally, will the Christian philanthropist look, for as soon as those who profess the benign doctrines of the gospel yield obedience to its righteous precepts, the great iniquity will totter to its fall.

FRANCE.

Little has been done in France to advance the anti-slavery cause during the past year. The Government is evidently opposing itself to the movement, and instead of a bold and comprehensive measure of emancipation, which might have been reasonably expected, a project is now before the Chambers intended merely to ameliorate the condition of the slaves. No material benefits are likely to result from it to those in bonds. By some it is regarded as a step in the right direction; the Committee can, however, only look upon it as an expedient to procrastinate the period of emancipation. That must come at last. The Committee have not failed to urge upon their fellow-labourers in France, what they believe to be their duty in this great matter, and they yet trust that some French Wilberforce will be raised up to accomplish the work which all deem to be necessary, but which none at the present moment appear to have the courage to propose.

HOLLAND.

The friends of the anti-slavery cause in Holland are actively engaged in disseminating anti-slavery information, and stimulating anti-slavery exertions. An important discussion has been raised in the Dutch Legislature on the presentation of a petition from the pro-

slavery ports in the country, the result of which has by no means answered their expectations. The Committee regard with the greatest satisfaction the progress of the question in Holland, and trust that the labours of their friends will be speedily rewarded with success.

Among the means adopted by the Committee to advance the anti-slavery cause, they would advert to an address which they have issued to British slave-holders residing in Surinam. These parties possess many thousand slaves; but as the tenure by which they hold them is becoming every day more and more precarious, they would hope that they will listen to the voice of humanity, and terminate a state of things, so far as they are concerned, as wicked as it is degrading.

DENMARK.

Denmark has taken up the anti-slavery cause with some degree of zeal, and its Government has issued ordinances of an ameliorative character, which the Committee sincerely trust are preliminary to a perfect scheme of emancipation. They would encourage their fellow-labourers in that country to persevere in the good work to which they have devoted themselves, until the African in their colonies shall be as free as the European who has settled there.

SWEDEN.

It is with sincere pleasure the Committee announce that the King and the Diet of Sweden have finally determined upon the emancipation of the slave-population of St. Bartholomew, a colony belonging to that country. Although the number of slaves in the island is comparatively small, it is an event which does honour to the parties who have been instrumental in its accomplishment, and to none does that honour more belong than to the reigning prince. The details of the law by which these slaves are to be enfranchised have not yet reached the Committee.

BRAZIL.

Brazil still continues the importation of slaves in vast numbers, reckless of consequences. The time must come, however, when this fatal policy will meet with its reward. It cannot be that so vast a scheme of iniquity as is perpetrated there will remain unpunished. The Committee trust that the fact will never be lost sight of by the people of this country, that by the laws of Brazil, and by its treaties with this country, by far the larger part of its slave population are free; and that they will never cease to demand of the British Government its powerful interposition in their behalf.

In the present state of feeling in Brazil, the friends of liberty fear to speak out, society is in a disorganised state, and law is as powerless to protect, as it is to punish. The whole body of its functionaries, with but few exceptions, are corrupted. It is, however, true of Brazil as of other slave-holding countries, that slavery is its greatest bane. Many of its enlightened citizens deeply feel this, and now and then put forth some degree of exertion to rectify public opinion in relation to it; but meeting with no encouragement, or rather, with opposition, they soon cease from their labours. Yet the Committee believe that the native Brazilians, as a body, are opposed to the slave-trade, and would probably not be unwilling to entertain the question of the abolition of slavery, were it seriously mooted by any popular and influential party. Their stake in the country is greater than that of foreigners, who are the chief slave-dealers, and whose fortunes are chiefly wrung out of this guilty traffic.

SPAIN.

Under the pressure which the Government of this country had laid upon the cabinet of Madrid, a law has been passed inflicting heavy punishments on parties found guilty of slave-trading in the Spanish colonies. The Committee, however, attach little importance to this enactment. They believe it is meant to silence the just demands of this country for a time, and is no ways intended to lessen the slave-traffic. They regard, with the same feelings, the orders issued by the General O'Donnell, entailing the confiscation of slave-vessels convicted of having been employed in the slave-trade. The venality of the authorities in the Spanish colonies, will, as heretofore, lead them to connive at the violation of law. At the same time the Committee will rejoice to find that the new laws are carried into effect with unfaltering fidelity. In the Spanish colonies as well as in Brazil, it should be generally known that at least two thirds of the slave-population are entitled to their freedom under the treaties which exist between Great Britain and Spain. And to secure to them their freedom should be the constant aim of the people of England.

In Spain and her colonies there are not wanting men of ability and worth to advocate the cause of the poor slaves. They feel, in common with us, the atrocious character of the system; but, being few in number, or placed in circumstances in which they cannot speak with effect, they look to the friends of humanity in this country to plead the cause for them, and urge upon them ceaseless exertions on behalf of the oppressed.

PORTUGAL.

The anti-slavery cause is undoubtedly making progress in Portugal. Three distinguished noblemen—the Duc de Palmella, the Viscount Sa de Bandeira, and the Count de Lavradio, appear to lose no opportunity of bringing the question of emancipation before the Chamber of Peers; and though hitherto unsuccessful, in consequence of the resistance of the Government, there can be little doubt that their perseverance in the noble work they have under-

taken will be crowned with ultimate success. The Committee have felt it to be their duty to place themselves in communication with these noblemen, and from them have received satisfactory assurances of their attachment to the great cause of human freedom, and their determination to prosecute their benevolent labours until the whole of the Portuguese possessions, both in India and in Africa, shall be free from the scourge and the curse of slavery.

HAÏTI.

The Committee sincerely rejoice to be enabled to say that peace is restored to this important island; and the energies of its people will be put forth to regain its former prosperity. The address which the Committee felt it to be their duty to forward to these interesting islanders was well received by the Government, and has been circulated, by its orders, in every village and commune throughout the country with the happiest results; and has been handsomely acknowledged in an address to the Committee, signed by many of its most distinguished citizens.

NORTHERN AFRICA.

Mr. James Richardson, the correspondent of the Committee, is still labouring with zeal in Northern Africa, in promoting the good cause. He has visited, during the past year, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, and is probably at this time at Ghadames, on the border of the Great Desert. The result of his inquiries and labours the Committee trust will be productive of excellent fruits. From him the Committee learn, that his Highness, the Bey of Tunis is pursuing his just and honourable career, and that the British Consul, Sir Thomas Reade, is using every legitimate means to accelerate the advent of complete freedom to all the remaining slave-population within the Tunisian territories. This is a cheering circumstance.

EASTERN AFRICA.

The Committee can report nothing favourable of the proceedings of the Viceroy of Egypt. His Highness seems to have forgotten all his promises, and slave-hunts are still persisted in for the supply and payment of his troops. Energetic remonstrances have been forwarded to him by the British Government, which, we fear, will have but little influence on this rapacious old man.

NORTHERN EUROPE.

Serfage and slavery, the Committee regret to say, prevail very extensively, not only under Mahomedan, but also under professedly Christian rule. To work out the overthrow of this terrible despotism, and to restore to its victims the unforfeited rights of their humanity, should be a duty sacred to every Christian philanthropist.

CONCLUSION.

The Committee have now briefly gone over the principal points in which they have been occupied during the past year. To have entered into full details would have been impossible on the present occasion. They would, however, state that they are deeply impressed with the importance of anti-slavery labours, and of the duty of increased efforts to give them greater efficiency and success. On this point the Committee will not, however, dwell. The appeal is from millions of the human race, suffering the unutterable misery, and the utter degradation of slavery. And the Committee trust it will not be in vain; but that you will prosecute the work with renewed vigour, and help on the glorious time, when every part of the human family in every section of the earth shall be free.

To the venerable President of the Society, Thomas Clarkson, the anti-slavery cause is under the greatest obligations, for his extension and efficient labours during the past year. Though bending under the weight of years he has lost no opportunity of promoting its objects, and has thereby laid the friends of human freedom in every country under new obligations to himself.

To the Treasurer of the Society the Committee are under great obligations for the valuable services he has rendered, during the year, and especially for the useful visit recently paid by him to various parts of the country on its behalf.

The Committee cannot conclude their Report without adverting to the heavy loss which the anti-slavery cause has sustained during the present year in the lamented decease of Sir Fowell Buxton, a man greatly beloved for his Christian excellences, and honoured for his public usefulness. He gave the strength of his youth and the matured energies of his manhood to this cause, and with his name will be justly linked the abolition of colonial slavery. The Committee would indulge the hope that among the talented and wealthy young men of England there may be found many who will emulate the example of Wilberforce and Buxton, and aid in the full accomplishment of the great and good work which has justly gained for them the honourable title of benefactors of their race.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held at the Hall of Commerce on Saturday, the 17th inst., and was attended by a highly respectable assembly. On the platform we observed Geo. Stacey, Josiah Forster, Robert Forster, Wm. Shippery, John Jessup, G. W. Alexander, Samuel Gurney, John Scoble, Samuel Hoare, G. O. Tregelles, Falmouth; Lewis F. Bellot, Dominica; J. Eaton, Bristol; R. Cadbury, Birmingham, Esqrs.; the Revs. James Sherman, W. Beecham, J. Burnet, W. Knibb, Jamaica; Eben. Davies, Barbice; — Simmonds, United States, &c., &c.

On the motion of G. W. Alexander, Esq., seconded by the Rev. J. Carlile, J. J. Gurney, Esq., was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by saying—I have great pleasure in acceding to the wishes of the Committee, and in doing my best in presiding over the present assembly. I have accepted this office under the feeling of a deep conviction of the very great importance of that cause which brings us together, and not only of the cause itself, in which such vast multitudes unite with us, but also of the services rendered by the Committee. I think it of the highest moment to the object which we have in view that we should maintain so intelligent, so industrious, and so effective a Committee in their varied operations, and that not only by the support of our purses—which, by the way has been very deficient hitherto, and I think ought to be very much increased—but also by the support of our minds, and of our fellow-feeling. Though I do not belong to the Committee myself, living in the country, I can bear my testimony to the importance of their operations. I was exceedingly interested in reading over the appendix to the last Report presented to this Society. It is a very valuable document. It takes a view of the whole subject in all its complexions, and I am quite sure that no reflecting person can read that appendix—and I hope many of you have read it, or will read it—without being deeply convinced of two things; first, of the unspeakable importance of the cause in which we are engaged; and, secondly, the practical value of our Committee. I hope to see the day when the general support of this institution will be what it was in days that are past, when we were engaged in the great struggle for the abolition of slavery in our own colonies. You must consider that we are citizens of the world. Circumstances which have transpired in late years have evidently brought the nations of men much nearer together than they formerly were. Means of communication have been so much increased in various respects that there is far more intercourse with citizens of all countries than there was ten years ago, and therefore we must now boldly undertake the cause, not merely as inhabitants of Great Britain, but as citizens of the world. In that point of view I think we ought to look at the various features of the subject with a truly comprehensive mind. In the first place I must say, that of all the evils now existing in the world, so far as I can understand the subject, there is not one so vast, so heinous, so marked by the most appalling circumstances, as the African slave-trade. It is most afflicting that, after the labour of so many years, after so many honest efforts, at least on the part of this country, that trade should now be in so very vigorous a condition, as we must conclude it to be, from the appendix to which I have referred. It seems to me that almost the whole coast of Africa, North, West, South, and East, is deeply infected with this abominable traffic. I must acknowledge that I start with horror from the notion of any plan on the part of our Government for the transfer of labourers, as they are called, from the Eastern coast of Africa especially, to our colony in Mauritius. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that, practically speaking, that must be the slave-trade. When you consider the extent of territory resorted to on the Eastern coast of Africa, for the supply of slaves for Turkey and Arabia, and that there is now to be a new channel opened for the transfer of these unhappy labourers to one of our own colonies, the subject does appear to be truly appalling. Not long ago, I happened, with another individual or two, to be in communication with the Government of Holland, and when some conversation took place with the king of that country respecting the practice which had long prevailed amongst the Dutch, of enlisting negro soldiers on the Gold Coast, and taking them to Java, there to fight the battles of Holland, it was said by the Dutch Government, They are free. They are soldiers, to be sure, but no sooner do we obtain possession of them than they are free men. But what were the preparatory steps? (Hear, hear.) The preparatory steps in Africa were precisely identical with those pursued in the slave-trade itself. (Hear, hear.) I think it is quite clear that labourers cannot be obtained in that way, or in any part of Africa, Sierra Leone excepted, without our being involved in the horrors of these preparatory steps, namely, war, murder, and rapine. This is a point on which I think the labours of the Committee are of peculiar importance. Do you not see the value of having a set of men in London who are always watching the subject? Do you not see the value of my friend on my right, John Scoble. I do not know what we should do without him—(cheers)—who goes into all the facts of the case, who makes himself master, with a peculiar industry, of these facts, and brings them out in an intelligible shape, and supplies the Government with the information thus obtained. (Hear, hear.) I think, therefore, that it is our duty to support the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society with heart-felt zeal, and with generous and constant subscriptions. I do not think there ever was a time when the labours of this Society were more important than they are at the present day. The King of Holland, on the occasion to which I have referred, was kind enough to say, (though he put it on the wrong ground, namely, that these men made bad soldiers,) that he would give up the practice, and he did so. (Hear, hear.) It had been a subject of very long and unsuccessful negotiation between our minister at the Court of the Hague and the Government there; and it was, at last, on a representation made on behalf of the philanthropists of England, that the object was attained. I do believe that we little know what is the influence which this Society and the British philanthropic and religious public can exercise in reference to this and other subjects of the same kind, not only in our own country, but as citizens of the whole world, and therefore I am sure that we have abundant encouragement to persevere. The point on which I have touched is only one of many, and I simply give it as an illustration of my views. It is quite evident to me that there are a great variety of points which do at this time demand the close watchfulness of such a Committee, and the generous and fervent support of such a society. (Hear, hear.) Look at the state of the question in France. From repeated visits to that country I have seen that the influence of our Anti-Slavery Society is not inconsiderable there; but the question of emancipation never will be carried in that country, so far as I can see, unless we rouse public opinion in our favour. Josiah Forster and myself, when in France, had the pleasure of the company of John Scoble and George William Alexander, and on several occasions we held anti-slavery meetings. There is a facility in France for holding such meetings. There is no obstruction to it in the law, and there is no unwillingness on the part of the people to meet. We have seen several hundreds of persons collected on occasions of this sort, who were more than willing

to hear the full development of the subject, and I have no doubt at all that public opinion in France is beginning to bear upon it. Petitions in considerable number have been presented to the Legislature. We know that we have ardent friends both in the Chamber of Deputies, and in the House of Peers; and some speeches have been made, especially one by Count Agenor de Gasparin, in the House of Deputies, which have excited very great attention and feeling on this topic. But in my opinion we require in France somewhat of a more constant and active agency than we at present possess. I think we ought, in the course of our proceedings, to be represented by some person of piety and talent, and of sincere devotion to the cause, who will work it as it has been worked in England by many persons whom we well know, and above all I would say, by Thomas Clarkson, the venerable president of this Society. (Cheers.) We should pay an efficient man in France to give up his time to the advancing of our principles. Are we to be niggardly in our subscriptions to this cause because we have done with slavery in our own colonies? Are we to forget that we are citizens of the world? Are we to put our hands in our pockets no more? This Society ought to have an income of at least 5,000*l.* a year, and I am sure that if the British public only knew what is wanted, they would come forward more generously, and with more fervent feeling than they have lately done. I have mentioned two points among many, which are under the particular care of the Committee, but besides these, we have to promote the cause in Denmark and Holland, where things are hopeful, though I suppose nothing can exceed the horror of slavery in the Dutch colony of Surinam; yet by making the nation see the barbarous system that is there pursued, we may succeed in putting an end to it. Things are desperately bad in Cuba, and the dominions of the Emperor of Brazil, but still I think that there are a few rays of hope even there; and much may be done by sedulously watching the progress of affairs there, and by the kindly operations of the Committee of this Society. There are two points to which I wish to advert before I conclude. In the first place, it is a subject of great congratulation that amongst all the discouragements which prevail in other parts of the world, our experiment, especially in the West India colonies, continues to go on substantially well. Our friend Knibb is here, and he will give us a little information upon that subject. He will stir up our warm blood in this cause, and I hope we shall show that we are not going to relax in our efforts. I have always thought that time would be greatly in our favour with reference to emancipation in the West Indies. I think no words can express the importance of the experiment which has been made there, and I always feel low and dispirited when I hear of anything which assumes a discouraging complexion, with regard to its result, more than almost anything else connected with this cause, because the eyes of America, of France, Denmark, Spain, and indeed, the whole world, are upon it. For my own part, knowing that men are actuated by pecuniary motives—knowing the commercial spirit which prevails so generally in the world, I am very much pleased when I hear of a good crop of sugar in Jamaica, and others of our West India colonies, though I am aware it is a very subordinate part of the question. I do rejoice in the increased conviction, in the confirmation of my hopes, that by giving time to this experiment, and letting freedom take its own genuine and natural course, we shall find that the great experiment is successful, even in a commercial point of view. When we consider the various methods pursued for shortening labour, the progress of agricultural knowledge, and the vast impulses of liberty on the human mind, we may rest assured that our West India colonies will yet afford substantial evidence that freedom is unspeakably more politic, as well as more righteous, than a state of slavery; and once convince our fellow-men and fellow-professors of the Christian name in the Southern States of North America, that emancipation will be a pecuniary advantage to themselves, and your difficulties there will be very much abated, and, in my opinion, completely overcome. (Cheers.) I do think that there is great hope in the present position of things as it relates to the West Indies. I will just read a few lines from the *Sun* newspaper, published the other day.

“The advices by the West India Mail are of a satisfactory character, and there is a generally promising statement as to the weather and the crops in Jamaica and the other leading islands. The labouring classes were conducting themselves with propriety, and affording indubitable evidence of the superiority of the inducement to freedom over the coercion of slavery, by working steadily and continuously.”

A few years ago I saw them working steadily, and with good heart, and I hope that a few more years of freedom will fully show that in a commercial point of view the great measure of emancipation is producing highly beneficial results. But, in the second and last place, although it is very important for our cause that even the pecuniary results of emancipation should turn out favourably, I hope we shall never forget that this cause is founded on Christian principles;—(hear, hear)—and on that great principle, above all, which is so plainly stated by our blessed Saviour, “Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them.” (Hear, hear.) Here is the ground of our action, here is the foundation on which we stand, and from this foundation has arisen, and will arise, I trust, an edifice which will be filled, may I not say, with that which shall give glory to God as well as happiness to men. (Cheers.) I hope that edifice will be broken and marred by no division. I am sure there is but one remedy, and one preventative for division, and that is, a firm adherence, on all occasions, to the moral and religious grounds on which this institution was founded; and although for a time we may in some respects have to sail as it were against the wind in an economical and pecuniary point of view, although we may be puzzled in some degree by some questions which have been very much agitated by commercial men in this country, yet I think it is our duty as anti-slavery men to keep to our principles, and under a deep impression of the exceeding sinfulness of the slave-trade and of slavery, to devote ourselves in good earnest to our pursuit, and follow it in dependence on the strength of the Most High, until those happy omens which now exist amidst a great deal of darkness and discouragement spread more and more, and all shall be freedom, and all shall be light in the world.

JOHN SCOBLE, Esq., then read the Report, an abstract of which will be found in another place.

The Rev. J. BEECHAM (one of the Secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society) said,—I very much regret that public business calls me immediately to leave for Southampton; but I could not deny myself the pleasure of hearing your excellent report, and of submitting for your adoption the first resolution. Allow me to say that I have listened to that admirable document with very great delight, and satisfied I am of the great importance of your Society. Notwithstanding the great achievement which has taken place in the West Indies, and to which reference has been made, there still exists great necessity for the operations of a society like yours, and I trust that, under the Divine blessing, they will be productive of a still larger amount of good. There was one topic, sir, to which you adverted, in your excellent opening remarks, and to which allusion was made in the report, on which I entertain very great solicitude—I refer to the arrangements for the removal of labourers, as they are termed, from Africa and other places to the West Indies. (Hear, hear.) I am fully persuaded, from the opportunity I have of collecting information as to the state of things in Africa, and as to the means that must necessarily be resorted to in carrying out these arrangements, that the plan is one calculated to produce a vast amount of mischief. Unless it be watched over you will have a new slave-trade springing up under another name. (Hear, hear.) I wish you success, in the name of the Lord, in your endeavours to resist the proposal which has just been made. If there were no other reasons for the continued existence of this Society, yet having to watch over measures of that description, entitles you, I am fully persuaded, to public confidence and support. (Cheers.) Will you allow me, without any other remarks, to move, That the Report, of which an abstract has been read, be adopted, printed, and circulated under the direction of the Committee.

R. CADBURY, Esq., of Birmingham, in seconding the resolution, said,—Having for a great number of years taken a deep interest in the subject of slavery, I could not hesitate to come forward and second the adoption of the Report which has now been presented. It embraces so fully the whole subject of the slave-trade and slavery, together with the infamous traffic now carrying on with the Coolies, that it does not require many words from me, except that I may say I do fully concur in the whole of the sentiments here expressed. I am quite of the opinion which has been expressed that nothing short of doing away with slavery itself will abolish the slave-trade. I believe it was the opinion of some of the original instigators of the abolition of slavery, that this should have been the step taken in the first instance. If that had been the course pursued, I have no doubt that slavery would by this time have been, in a great measure, done away, and that the slave-trade would have been entirely abolished. (Hear, hear.) I believe it is matter of fact that if the oppressors get one cargo of slaves into port, they can afford, calculating by pounds, shillings, and pence, to lose four cargoes. (Hear, hear.) It is, however, most comfortable and satisfactory to my mind that those few bold, noble experiments that have been tried in our own islands, have proved completely successful.

The resolution having been seconded, was put and carried unanimously. The CHAIRMAN said,—I would suggest a corollary to that resolution,—that the Report be not only received, but read by every individual present. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. BURNET rose to move,

“That, in view of the continued existence of the African slave-trade, which, notwithstanding the costly sacrifices of this country to suppress it, is carried on to an enormous extent, and with unexampled ferocity, this meeting feel it to be their duty to urge upon the abolitionists of every land, the necessity of seeking by those means which are of a purely moral, religious, and pacific nature, and with increased earnestness and diligence, the entire abolition of slavery as the only certain mode of extinguishing this gigantic evil, and its kindred abomination, the internal slave-traffic, in countries where it unhappily prevails.

“That, as one great means for promoting the universal abolition of slavery and the slave-trade, this meeting deem it of the very highest importance that every restriction on the free investment of capital in the soil, and every impost on the industry of the labourer in British India, should be immediately removed, being persuaded that, in conjunction with the emancipated colonies, that part of the empire can raise tropical productions, under an equitable system of revenue, by free labour, to any extent that may be required, on terms that would greatly diminish, if not totally annihilate the demand for the produce of slave labour, both at home and abroad.”

This resolution brings the whole question of slavery as it exists in different parts of the world before the meeting; and if any of our friends are disposed to say that since our own slaves have been emancipated we do not need an anti-slavery society, I think the state of slavery throughout the world, beyond the limits of our own dominions, will be a sufficient reply to such an observation. It is quite clear that our legislators will do nothing beyond the limits of our own Government. Their authority extends only to our own country. But what is to be done for the slaves that belong to other countries? Who is to care for them? Do the Brazilians form an anti-slavery society to seek the emancipation of slaves in Brazil? Do the Spaniards, or will they, seek the emancipation of slaves in their own colonies? Will the Dutch be very anxious to emancipate the slaves in Surinam without receiving attention from us? Will the Americans seek to put an end to slavery within the United States, if we are altogether silent? I grant, and I rejoice in the fact, that there are abolitionists in America increasing in number, in decision, in activity, and in energy; but these very abolitionists are raised up in consequence of the agitation of this great question in the mother country, as I must call this in reference to America. We look therefore to this country as the source of those public opinions, and public feelings and principles, without glorifying in the circumstance, by which the emancipation of those who are in slavery, and the prevention of slavery throughout the world shall finally be effected. If we look therefore to this position in which Providence has placed us; if we look to the fact that we are lifted up, as it were, on a pinnacle before the nations of the earth, not to be admired as

“Great, glorious, and free,”

but rather to hold up to those nations an illustration of the power of the principles by which we have been made great; if we occupy such a posi-

tion among the nations of the earth, we are bound to set before them the practical influence of all the principles by which they may be lifted up to a fellowship of freedom with ourselves. But look at our own Government, and it may be said that we must expect from them their influence and their power. Why, they require an Anti-Slavery Society to watch them. (Hear, hear.) See what our Government are doing at the Mauritius. They are transporting, for it is nothing less, from the East Indies, the population of that great empire, and they are placing them in the Mauritius, for what purpose? For labour, they say—free labour. The British Government are lending themselves to be a kind of advertising functionary for servants out of place in the East Indies, that they may find work for them in the Mauritius. (Laughter and cheers.) But look at the way they are sending them. They take a hundred men to twelve women. Do they mean that they are to form social habits; are they to be a happy and a comfortable labouring people? That condemning fact reveals a thousand secrets. (Cheers.) What, society to be formed of a hundred men to every twelve women! Providence never intended it; the equalization of the sexes by the hand of the Creator shows this was never meant to be the state of society; and if this single fact is considered for a moment by any of the persons I now address, not all the intrigues, not all the sophistry of politicians can ever show you that they intend to make a happy comfortable fellowship of the Coolies in the Mauritius. They do not mean that they should be a society there; they mean that they should serve them like beasts of burden. (Hear, hear,) and nothing more. No argument can meet this fact; no argument can set it aside; and it speaks more than any circumstance in the Report, notwithstanding the many important circumstances introduced into it; it speaks more to show the motive of the Government, and to show the movements of the persons whom the Government are endeavouring to serve in this business, than any speech can possibly do. Let this fact be carried away with us then, and what will it teach us? That we cannot and must not trust even our own Government. Is there a minister of the Crown that can for a moment overlook this fact? Does not Lord Stanley say it as clearly as any one can say it? Is not the pretence simply that the Coolies will go there and settle there, and be their servants, just as our servants settle amongst ourselves? And is it not a reality that they are to be taken there to serve in hard bondage and to die like the beasts in the field, and to be succeeded not by their own families, but by fresh importations from India? (Cheers.) This should be considered by the British public, and pressed on the British Government. The Colonial Secretary should hear this again and again; but who is to tell him? Only this Society. The facts that are brought out by this Society, and the practical use made of these facts, in connection with the administration of the country, fully entitle the Society to the affection, to the persevering support of this great country. But the resolution which I have to move reminds us that the termination of slavery must necessarily take place before we can prevent the slave trade. As long as there is a market for any article by which money is to be made, or by which it is hoped that it may be made, so long that article will be found. (Hear, hear.) If that article is to be sought for in the bosom of the earth, the rocks cannot conceal it from the cupidity of the man who endeavours to apply his industry. To secure property, the rocks will be blown to pieces, and the earth itself will be explored, and its concealed treasures will be brought up. This has been done; and we admire the genius, and the energy, and the industry that did it; and are we to suppose that if men can be stolen from the face of the earth, that they can be safe if there is a market for them? It is impossible. Men, and especially our own nation, will do anything to make money. We do not mean to complain of our country because it is rich. By no means. Let it be as much richer as it honestly can be; let it be honestly rich. (Hear.) Wherever there is a market and articles are demanded, those articles will be found for the market; and all the fleets that you may have, and all the armies we can embark in those fleets, cannot possibly prevent the traffic in slaves till the market itself is closed. Close the market, nobody thinks of bringing an article to it. No one will bring any description of goods into any market if there is no purchaser. He would feel that he was losing his time, and losing the fruits of industry in taking such a course. (Hear, hear.) Then how are we to do away with slavery itself? We cannot pass an Act of Parliament that will touch the Brazils: they do not belong to us. We cannot pass an Act of Parliament that will touch Surinam or Cuba; and what then are we to do? We cannot make an Act of Parliament that will touch America. Then if we cannot, there is a species of moral acts that are as powerful sometimes as Acts of Parliament. We can constantly remind the gentlemen of their guilt, and we can cry out “Stop thief!” while thievery is going on. (Cheers.) We can denounce the individuals who, under the influence of a desire to enrich themselves, are so reckless of the lives and liberties of their fellows; and a man does not like to have honest people always declaring that he is a thief, especially when he knows that it is true. (Laughter.) He would rather they did not do this, and yet we must continue doing it; but if nobody were to do it the thief would go on. It is astonishing how the conscience can be seared. It is much easier to sear the conscience of a criminal, than to destroy his shame. Shame is stronger than conscience. A man can master his conscience, put the money in his pocket, and go on with his crime, if he is not held up to the scorn of his fellow men. But we can do more. We can speak to different nations of the world. Many of them do things very thoughtlessly. Great statesmen are not always cautious in their reflections, nor are they minute in their investigations; but if they imagine their honour is to be tarnished, they will think a little; and their honour will be tarnished if the people they govern are constantly holding them up to observation, when they are found neglecting their duty or going beyond it. Then it is necessary that these men should have constant prompters, and this Society has been prompting them constantly. They have been teasing various Governments, and prompting them to do their business—nay, some of the members of the Committee do not mind going to the Continent, to Holland, to France, to Spain, and Portugal, and telling them, as members of the Committee, what they are about (cheers.) Now, really this cannot go on without producing some important results. When respectable foreigners appear at foreign courts, and remind them of what they are doing, and of what they are neglecting, they will hesitate a little, especially when they find that the information given to them is information which, were they to act upon, would do them no harm, and

that they can save their honour thereby. If, at the same time, they find they are not losing their revenue by any scheme that respectable foreigners may press upon them, they may be likely to adopt it. But for this Society, these Governments would know almost nothing of what is going on within the range of their jurisdiction. We have paid some of these Governments to give up this traffic, yet notwithstanding that circumstance, they continue to elude all the vigilance that can be employed for the purpose of preventing their carrying on the trade. Now, what can dry up the demand in the market, but destroying slavery throughout the whole extent of the civilized world? Think of the awful circumstances in which Africa is placed while this trade continues. Importations are sought to be made from Africa into the Mauritius direct, without taking the trouble of going to the East Indies for the poor Coolies, and this attempt is to be made by Britain. Let us take care of this; let us feel the strong conviction which the proportionate number to which I have referred must bring to every man's mind, that service is not intended, but that slavery is, and we shall then watch with an unslumbering jealousy every attempt made by the British Government to aid the cupidity of our fellow subjects, in thus becoming men-stealers from the shores of Africa. (Cheers.) Think of the horrors necessarily connected with the pilfering of men, women, and children, from Africa, for the Brazils, for Cuba, for the different colonies connected with European powers. In the interior of the country, the people are bought in the market, or are stolen. They are stolen, in the first instance, then they are sold in the market; or they are stolen direct by those that embark them. They are gathered together near the coast in what they call Barracoons, an immense barrack, a long hall, perhaps 200 feet long, with matting for them to lie upon, and there they are kept, often in chains, without a rag to cover them, till they are ready for embarkation. If they have children when they are stolen—infants, what do they do with them? They kill them. (Sensation.) They are too tender to be brought to the Brazils or Cuba, and they are literally slain, when their parents are taken; and this is going on daily, and will continue to go on, till slavery itself is everywhere abolished. Then there are other ways that may be adopted, besides this prompting the Government on the question. Look at the East Indies; they are mentioned in the resolution, and there you have a field for the production of everything for which slave labour is employed. Then encourage the growth of the produce of that field, and bring it into the market, and outsell the slaveholders, until they find that slavery is a losing concern. (Cheers.) And you have then cut up the whole system by the roots, by peaceful and tranquil commercial dealings. But how can we do this? Have at our own Government on the subject, and make them do it. I have no confidence at all in statesmen, unless they are constantly prompted. On you rests the responsibility of watching them. I blame them when they do what is wrong, and neglect to do what is right; but I blame the country when they allow them to do what is wrong, and neglect to do what is right. Whatever may be the pretence of freedom, we have practical slavery in India. They tell us the slaves of India are legally free; I would rather they were actually free. (Hear, hear.) If, in India, people have not information enough to assert their own freedom, it is our duty to supply their lack of service, and to assert it for them. But, I shall conclude my observations on this resolution, by recommending the meeting to watch most diligently the progress of this system of Coolie emigration, and of any proposal that may be made with regard to it. Take the Reports of this Society, and as the Chairman has recommended you to read them, so would I. Take the last Report of the Society, and you will find that the Appendix is full of general, useful, important, interesting matter. If you do not belong to the Anti-Slavery Society at all, you ought to buy it, and pay a good price for it. I am quite sure that you pay a good price for books very far inferior to the Appendix to this Report. I press this on your attention, because I know the Anti-Slavery cause suffers from the information necessary to its progress not coming in the people's way; and scarcely anybody would think of reading the report of a Society. I remember the great Robert Hall, on one occasion said, when some person was speaking about the reports of a public society, "If you wish to keep a secret, just have it printed in the report of one of these societies, and it is perfectly safe." (Laughter.) This is really a reflection on the public. The Reports contain the actual information of the Society's movements, and the Appendix, by which the statements of the Report are confirmed, will be found amply to repay perusal. Take the Report, then, take away the recollection of the fact, that our own Government are involving poor, ignorant, uncultivated Indians in misery; and if you find our own Government, after we have declared slavery to be at an end, are taking this course, remember further, that the Governments of Europe, to whom we have paid large sums of money, are still continuing slavery in their colonies, and welcoming a slave-trade through the middle passage; let it be remembered, then, that every man is his brother's keeper, that the sufferers in this cause are our brethren, and we are guilty of our brother's blood if we do not give ourselves with zealous heartiness to the great object which this Society has in view. (Cheers.)

JOSEPH EATON, Esq., having briefly seconded the resolution, it was put and carried.

G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., then presented his accounts as Treasurer, from which it appeared that the total receipts of the Society during the past year were 1,966*l*. 5*s*. 1*d*.; the expenditure 1,913*l*. 4*s*. 3*d*. The liabilities, including the debt due to the Treasurer, are about 600*l*. He then moved

"That this meeting view with sentiments of gratitude the present aspect of the anti-slavery cause throughout the world, and rejoice that the great principles on which it is based are more extensively diffused and better understood than at any former period of its history,—that among its triumphs, during the past year, they regard with high satisfaction the decision of the King and the Diet of Sweden to emancipate the slave-population of its colonial dependency in the West Indies,—and that, confiding in the justice of that cause, and above all, in the Divine blessing on the untiring and increasing efforts of its friends, they look forward with unwavering confidence to the period when, overcoming all opposing obstacles, it shall deliver the whole human family from the curse and degradation of slavery.

"That this meeting regard with feelings of the deepest regret and

abhorrence the recent conduct of the United States in its criminal attempt to extend and consolidate the system of slavery on the American continent by the annexation of Texas to its present vast possessions, and would urgently call on the friends of liberty and religion in that country to use their utmost efforts to prevent the realization of so iniquitous a measure."

After the speeches which have been already delivered, and those which are to follow from our friends who have come from the West Indies, it would be much out of place if I were to detain you long on the present occasion. At the same time, allow me to say that I do most cordially agree in the resolution I have submitted to your notice, and particularly in the cheering aspect of the Anti-Slavery cause both at home and abroad. I say advisedly, both at home and abroad; for though circumstances have occurred in this country which have had some tendency to divide the friends of the cause, still, when I look at its past triumphs and its position at the present moment, it is impossible to feel anything like discouragement. When I look at the circumstance that England possessed, a few years ago, a greater number of slaves in its colonies than were to be found in those of all the other powers of Europe; when I see the evident blessing which has attended the labours of great and good men in this country to put an end to slavery and the slave trade, I must believe that similar effects and a similar blessing will, ere a long period shall have expired, have banished those evils at least from every Christian country on the face of the globe. In Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Holland, France, and every country which it has been my lot to visit, I have found some hearts that sympathise with the sufferings of the most oppressed portion of the whole of the family of man; and I cannot conceive it possible that a system so opposed to the benign spirit of the Gospel can long exist. It is only because slavery prevails at a great distance from them that we can account for the fact that it has been so long permitted to exist in connection with various Christian countries. It is, however, a matter of no small congratulation that there is no land on the face of the earth implicated in slavery in which efforts are not making for the termination of that crime, and in which men are not to be found interested in this question. Allusion has been made to the interest felt on this subject in Europe, and the same is not less true with regard to the United States. I believe that there are a greater number of persons in that country seeking the downfall of slavery than in any other country implicated in that crime. We have also to speak of the cheering circumstance that one nation has set the example of giving freedom to its slaves, or is about thus to act. I trust that this example, on the part of the King and Legislature of Sweden, will be followed speedily by other European powers, and by at least a portion of the slave states of North America. You will be delighted to hear from some of our friends the results of emancipation in our colonies, and to learn that they have realized our fullest expectations. This should be a stimulus to us to persevere in those labours in which we are engaged till slavery shall be everywhere abolished. (Cheers.)

S. GURNEY, Esq., sen., rose and said,—I have great satisfaction in seconding the resolution that has been presented to your notice by my much esteemed friend, G. W. Alexander. There is no one present who either could have enforced, or was more suitable to advocate this resolution than he, inasmuch as those countries of Europe which retain slaves in their colonies have been visited by him, and our great principles efficiently and judiciously enforced. The motion embraces three subjects of considerable interest; one is the measure lately adopted by the king of Sweden, supported by his Diet; a second, the annexation of Texas to the United States; the third, a confident trust as to the successful result of the labours of this very important Society. We must all agree that the step taken by the King of Sweden is one of very great importance, and must afford high satisfaction to any anti-slavery meeting. It is true that the island in possession of that country was but small, and the slaves, therefore, few in number; but it was setting a noble example to those who had larger colonies, and I doubt not that it will tell with great weight on other monarchs of Europe. With regard to Texas, we must all see that if the proceedings of the United States of America are carried into execution, it will be a severe blow to our cause, and perhaps, in the present state of the question, it is our tenderest point, and well worthy of all the help that can be given to prevent that junction taking place. I am not quite prepared to go so far as a preceding speaker, touching gentlemen who hold the reins of government in various parts of Europe; they have great difficulties, great temptations, to many of which they too much yield; but still I think the British Government have manifested, in our cause, an honest desire to promote it; and, as far as we can, we should encourage them to proceed therein. I am not without some faint hope that the influence of the British Government, and possibly that of France, may at this time be used in preventing that annexation, and I would encourage our Committee to urge on the British Government to use all their influence to maintain Texas as an independent state, and by the aid which they have the opportunity of affording to that rising but young people, to induce them to terminate slavery in that country. —That, I apprehend, is a very proper object of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society; and I cannot but feel that there is some ground to hope that we shall be met by a good spirit on the part of the British Government, with reference to that subject. (Hear, hear.) The third point in the resolution is our assurance as to ultimate success. We must all feel that this point must be left in the highest hands. It is for this association to labour, and trust for the blessing, and I believe there is reason to anticipate that it will be bestowed. When efforts were first made to abolish slavery in the British colonies, my own mind was hopeless on the subject. It appeared a mountain that we should never be able to get over, and this feeling was by no means confined to myself: on the contrary, it was a general impression. I think the case of the slaves now in the colonies of European governments is infinitely less hopeless than was ours; and there is some ground to believe that the object of the Society will be ultimately attained. I will say a few words on the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. I do believe that there never was a period when its labours were more important than at the present time; I therefore regret that, slavery having been abolished in our own colonies, the subject does not occupy so much of the public attention as it used to do; and which at this time it most richly deserves. The proceedings of the Society having been detailed in

the Report, and having watched it for some time back, I am prepared to say that I think it most valuable. I have a strong impression, that had it not been for the exertions of this Society through the Committee, laws would have been established in the West Indies which would have much diminished the value of abolition there. It has obtained correct information, and applied it at all times when wanted, and, in a great many cases, with marked success. (Cheers.) The influence of the Society on the French Government has also been very great; and it appears to me that there never was a period when it called more imperatively for the cordial assistance of its friends. It is a source of regret that the pecuniary support is not equal to what it ought to be. I will encourage my friends present really and truly to put their shoulders to the wheel, and to give their subscriptions to this Society. It is very easy to attend meetings of this kind, and be interested in the object; to have our feelings excited for half an hour, and say what a capital thing it is; but what is required is cordial assistance out of doors, and that our friends should give their exertions to raise funds for the Society, that it may, without limitation, go on in its great and excellent work. I see a number of ladies present, some of them young—very young; and it may be in their power, among their friends, to raise subscriptions of larger or smaller amount. (Hear, hear.) There is not one present who may not thus aid the Society, and render it more efficient in the accomplishment of the end it has in view. I will only detain you by saying that the Society has my cordial approbation. I think it is exceedingly well managed; and I do trust that all present will not only do it themselves, but that they will urge on their friends to give it their efficient support. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and agreed to.

The Rev. Mr. KNIBB rose to move

"That whilst this meeting have no intention whatever of interfering with the free and spontaneous emigration of labourers to the British emancipated colonies, at the expense of the parties to be benefited thereby, they regard with increasing hostility the schemes now sanctioned by Government for supplying them with Asiatic and African labourers as unjust in principle, evil in example, immoral in tendency, and of more than doubtful expediency, and would earnestly recommend to the friends of humanity and religion throughout the country, to offer them their most vigorous and united opposition."

It is, I assure you, with very great pleasure that I rise to propose a resolution to this meeting that is intimately connected with the present and with the everlasting welfare of the lately emancipated people in the islands of the west. I do not consider that there is the least necessity for me to express the cordial approbation I feel, and the deep interest I still would manifest, in the operations of this benevolent society. If I could the least suppose that there was a diminution of interest felt in its operations, I would, by all the interest I feel in man, by all the deep concern I still feel for the emancipated labourers of Jamaica, by all the concern I feel that the different nations of the earth may soon be rid of this abominable curse, urge you still to persevere in that path you have marked out for your guidance, till the blessing of Heaven shall crown your final efforts. The resolutions which have already been adopted by the meeting refer to the increase of the slave-trade, and to the measures that have been hitherto pursued for its annihilation. I hope I shall be excused if I enter upon the discussion of this resolution, by expressing my firm and unaltered conviction that, whatever means may be used by the British or any other Government, however numerous may be their fleets—however strong their instruments of war—yet they will never put down this accursed traffic. It is only by the adoption of those Christian measures, which this Society recommends, and only by the annihilation of slavery itself, (hear, hear,) that the monster can be destroyed. And, let negotiations go on till time shall end, and all these negotiations be conducted by all the wisdom and all the acumen for which statesmen may be distinguished, the cupidity and wickedness of man will baffle the whole, and they will have to retire from the contest, and confess, at last, that they cannot cope with the covetousness of the world. (Hear, hear.) However, the resolution which I have been requested to move refers to that present, and that, to me, gloomy aspect of affairs—the introduction of labourers to the islands of the west, and their introduction at the labourers' expense. I was exceedingly rejoiced to hear my esteemed friend, Mr. Burnet, touch upon that licentiousness which must ever be consequent on the introduction of the Hill Coolies into Jamaica, and into the other colonies. I can assure you I tremble for the result. It is not merely what these men will do themselves, among themselves, but the awful influence they will have upon the youthful portion of Jamaica, is to me the most appalling feature of the whole; and I do most sincerely trust, that if there be any means that can be used, that has not been hitherto employed, to stop that unnecessary flood of licentiousness and crime, that the efforts of every friend of man will be put forth to secure us from the infliction of so dire an evil. It is a source of increasing regret that the introduction of these men is as unnecessary as it is iniquitous. We have no need at all for labourers; all we want is this, that the unjust restrictions, and taxation on the peasants' food should be taken off—(cheers)—that he should be fairly paid for the labour he performs; and then I am confident that it can be proved, as it has been already proved, wherever there has been a fair example set, that free labour is cheaper than slave labour, in Jamaica as well as anywhere else. (Cheers.) It is right—and as this is the only opportunity I shall have of speaking among you, (for in a few weeks I hope to return whence I came,) it is right you should know, that if there has been any diminution of that improvement you expected to result from emancipation—if there has not been that advance which might have been expected, not merely in virtue, but in religion—if there has not been that quantity of produce made which we had a right to anticipate—it has not been the labourers' fault; it has arisen from circumstances over which he had no control—circumstances which lie at the door of his master, or those who bear rule, and not at his. If I cannot prove this to the satisfaction of all unprejudiced, and even prejudiced minds here, I think they must be full of hearing and understanding. I refer to this, more especially, as I have done in another place, because the sentiments I hold on this important question, when referred to in the House of Commons by Lord John Russell, were instantly met by that, which, while it did not convince me of the wisdom of those senators, did not in the least show

that they were anxious to ascertain the truth. Lord John Russell stated that during the last two years of freedom there had been heavy taxes laid on the food of the peasant, for the purpose of raising money to introduce emigrants into the colony of Jamaica; that these taxes pressed exceedingly heavy upon them, while their wages were reduced; and he stated it, he said, on the high authority of Mr. Knibb. This, as was very likely in that House, was met with cries of "Oh! oh! oh!" (Laughter.) Now it is right that the Anti-Slavery Society should know—that the British public should know—that Lord John Russell stated exactly the truth; and that individuals who met his statements, because they happened to be founded upon my authority, in the manner referred to, had much better have examined the laws that were passed, and made themselves acquainted with the facts of the case. (Cheers.) I concur with Mr. Burnet that these men require watching continually—not the senators of England only, but those in Jamaica too; for if they are not thus watched, and public opinion roused when they do wrong, the fair form of liberty will not be maintained in all its just proportions; and the sacrifice made by Britain will fail of producing its effects, not because the freeman is not grateful—is not willing to work for low wages, but because he is beset on every side by taxes, indirectly laid on all he eats, and all he drinks, and every comfort he enjoys, which paralyse his efforts, and make him a pauper. (Cheers.) It is generally known, that on the introduction of freedom to Jamaica—and this resolution is to be seconded by a respected missionary from Barbice, who will tell you their doings there—they immediately passed two laws, intended to crush the rising liberties of the population. The one was the Ejectment act, by which any labourer, for any reason, or no reason, could be turned out of the house or cottage he inhabited when a slave, at a week's notice, and could be sent, houseless and homeless, abroad. Another act was passed at the same time, in which an armed police were empowered to take him up as a trespasser, if, after such notice was given, he were found on the premises. You will thus perceive that 300,000 human beings could, for any cause, or no cause, be houseless, homeless, and friendless. For the purpose of arresting these engines of tyranny, we advised the population, as far as they could, to obtain freeholds of their own, and to use every effort, consistent with honesty, by frugality and industry, to obtain a home for themselves. It will appear to this respected Society at once, that so long as labourers could be ejected at a week's notice, so long as they could be compelled to live in the miserable huts in which they vegetated when slaves, in which they were huddled together at the caprice of their owners, it was impossible for the seeds of virtue to take root. Now if you take this simple fact, and remember that these were heads of families, and generally it was the case, that those who were married were those who were engaged in agricultural pursuits; and if you suppose that there were five in a family, the man, his wife, and three children, you will just have one-third of the labouring population, in the enjoyment of their own freeholds partially paid for, and in many instances, quite paid for, on which they have erected their houses, their own free and comfortable cottages. There are friends on this platform recently returned from a tour, and an interesting tour, I believe, it has been to them, I mean our highly esteemed friends who have witnessed our calamities, who have been with us in our colonies, who have sympathized with us in our trials, who believe, with us, that the cloud which hangs over us will soon pass away, and that the sun will again shine out and look more beautiful than ever. Immediately upon the fact being known that the labourer wished to purchase this land, a stamp act, increasing the stamp duty on every title from 3s. to 10s., was passed in Jamaica; and this was to have a retrospective aspect, so that those who had purchased land, and paid for their titles, if they had not recorded them—and how were they to record them?—not only had to pay them, but the former ones were declared to be null and void, and they were charged the duty of 10s. over again. Now, no sooner was the purchase of the land completed, and no sooner did individuals wish to purchase timber with which they might build their houses, than the new tariff was introduced, which I have here, as printed by themselves, and I have merely brought it lest the statement should be called in question. The moment the emancipated population began to build, they took off the tax upon the white oak and red oak staves, with which puncheons are made to hold rum, and hogsheads to hold sugar, and they also took the tax off the hoops with which they are bound. Before the introduction of freedom, the duty on staves was 12s.; they kindly reduced the duty to 2s. The tax on wooden hoops was 4s., and that was reduced to 1s. The former tax on shingles, with which we cover our roofs, was 1s., but that has been raised to 4s. and 8s. Now that the negro is beginning to build, it is 8s. and 12s. There is as much wood in one red oak stave as in two shingles; so that while the planter was to pay 2s. for the same wood coming from the same country, the emancipated labourer has to pay 24s. (Hear, hear.) And this is but a fair specimen of the whole. On the white pine, and the pitch pine lumber, the same tax has been laid; and as the emancipated population could not be always building houses, the same system has descended, with all its fearful force, to the articles which they consume. (Hear, hear.) There it is that our great difficulty lies, and this is one of the reasons why I wish to appeal to the deepest sympathies of this assembly. (Hear, hear.) It is not merely right that you should advocate the abolition of slavery, it is right also that you should protect the freeman. (Hear, hear.) If it be true, as you have stated it to be, that it is an all-important matter that emancipation should rise in Jamaica free and comely, so that the American, gazing upon it, may be impelled to set his slave free, surely we ought to be protected, and the British Government ought not to assist in laying a tax on the means of life which the peasant has to consume. If I cannot prove that this has been done, then regard not what I say. (Hear, hear.) It is necessary for me just to state—because I know that those who are engaged in so many other occupations cannot afford time to search into the intricacies of our domestic economy—that in Jamaica the peasant, as well as ourselves, is almost entirely dependent on foreign supplies for food; and so long as you shall think it necessary—and into that question I am not going to enter—so long as you shall think it necessary that the cultivation of the soil should be almost entirely engrossed by the production of sugar and rum, so long must we look elsewhere for something to eat. (Hear, hear.) We cannot live upon sugar, and as to rum, we do not wish to touch it. (Cheers.) Under the former tariff, when the population had little to do with the duty upon what was imported, their food being found,



for the most part, by their masters, the tax on flour was 4s.; by the recent tariff it was raised to 6s. During the last year, 1844, there were 139,616 barrels of flour brought into the island of Jamaica. The former tax, I believe, was 2s.; there is now 2s. more added by Jamaica, and 2s. further laid on by the British Government. This 2s. is on the flour which comes from America. And to show you the operation of this, I would state that I am confident that scarcely a single barrel of flour comes from England; the whole of it very nearly comes from the United States. (Hear, hear.) The next article of food which they taxed was corn-meal, which is consumed chiefly by the labouring population. During the time when corn-meal was part of the food of the slave, the tax upon it was 3d. per barrel; now it is 3s. per barrel. (Hear, hear.) The quantity imported last year alone was 32,337 barrels. During the time of slavery the tax upon rice, another article of food, which is consumed to a great extent—and there is no differential duty between slave-grown rice and free-grown rice—in Jamaica was 1s. per cwt. Now they have raised it to 4s.; and 14,077 bags of rice were brought into Jamaica in the last year. The next article is salt fish, an article consumed by the whole of the labouring population. In the time of slavery, I believe, there was no tax on this article—if there was any duty, it was a very trifling one. There is now a duty of 2s. per cwt.; 150,000 cwt. having been brought into Jamaica last year. The next article, and the last which I will refer to, though I have the whole tariff here, is an article which lays the whole economy of the matter fairly before you. The tax upon salt pork, during the time of slavery, was 4s. per barrel, a barrel weighing about 1½ cwt. Since the commencement of freedom, especially in the last tariff, they have laid a tax upon all pork, whether it come from Ireland or from America, of 16s. sterling per barrel; and upon American pork the British Parliament have laid another tax of 4s. or 5s. per barrel—so that upon every barrel of pork coming from America, the chief object of our consumption, which costs in America, as I am informed, 1l. 6s., there is a tax laid of 1l. sterling. (Hear, hear.) And to show how this acts, I will tell you how much pork comes from America, and how much of it from Britain. During the last year 27,106 barrels came from America, at a tax of 27,000l. sterling; 4,718 barrels came from Great Britain and Ireland, which were brought in at a tax of 16s. The taxes raised upon all these imports, consumed chiefly, be it understood, by the labouring population, amounted in 1842 to 127,821l. 14s. 6d.; in 1843, to 190,250l. 9s. 3d.; and in 1844, to 192,517l. 12s. 7d. (Hear, hear.) This is a confirmation of the statement that these heavy taxes are laid for the purpose of introducing these Hill Coolies and other emigrants to reduce the wages of the labourer. And I ask you if, in the whole history of governmental influence, you can find a more determined effort to crush us just as we were springing into life. We were urged (and we faithfully fulfilled the trust committed to our charge) to reduce the labourers' wages from 1s. 6d. to 1s. per day; and when this was done—the moment they found him at work upon the estate, they taxed his food that he might be starved into submission. (Hear, hear.) What renders this more annoying is, that there is no need of it. During the time of Sir Lionel Smith's administration, the government of Jamaica did not cost more than 158,988l., in 1844 it cost 391,798l. And this is wrong chiefly, not from the planters, but the labourers. At the very time when they were laying this tax on food, they took off the tax on every dwelling on every sugar estate, and just threw it upon the peasant. It is a fact, that after this tariff was passed, the planters in St. George's met, and urged the House of Assembly yet more deeply to tax the labouring population, stating that that population did not bear its share. This money is raised for emigration purposes, for an armed police, and for another purpose to which I do not wish to advert here—the maintenance of a religion from which three-fourths of the population, perhaps nine-tenths, dissent. For the armed police alone, who, with their muskets and their bullets, parade throughout the length and breadth of the island—useless, and worse than useless—fomenting nine-tenths of the quarrels which they were appointed to prevent and suppress, more than 40,000l. sterling a year is paid. (Hear, hear.) It will be remembered, no doubt, by the Committee, though not by the whole of this assembly, that during the government of Sir Lionel Smith the police force and the whole of the militia were disbanded—Sir Lionel saying, "With a few Baptist and Methodist parsons I can keep the whole island in a state of peace;" and he did so. Well, by this time I fear there has been an introduction of these Hill Coolies—though, be it known, that in Jamaica the measure did not receive the hearty co-operation of the whole of the inhabitants, nor even of the whole of the planters. It is a pleasing sign of the times that only one petition was presented to the House of Assembly in favour of Hill Coolie emigration—and that petition went from the parish in which I live—and I believe it was got up by a few who do not like me, and perhaps never will, because I got up a counter one. To show you that they did not like it, let me mention that the very week after they presented the petition to the House of Assembly, at a meeting of the Agricultural Society, of which I happened to be a member, though I was not present, they presented the following document to the world. "Trelawney Agricultural Society.—The committee anxiously avail themselves of this opportunity to report that their experience and the result of their inquiries enable them to state that the general conduct of the labouring population in this parish is satisfactory, and leads to the hope that it will be further displayed in their assiduity in the manufacture of the promising crops now on the ground, and in the endeavour to maintain the improved condition and prospects of the parish, in which they, and every other class of the community, are so vitally concerned." Now this is the report of the very same men, exactly at the same time that they were petitioning for Hill Coolie emigration, to take off their crops. There was not a single petition besides presented from the whole island of Jamaica. And the vote for the introduction of these Hill Coolies only passed by the speaker's casting vote. Yet the sum of 80,000l. sterling is to be raised this year from the taxes laid upon the peasants' food, for the purpose of bringing in individuals who, I say confidently, will not have work to do when they arrive there. (Hear, hear.) I speak advisedly. (Hear.) I speak, my respected friends, with the full fact glaring in my face, that in two months I shall be again in Jamaica. I know that during the last year the labouring population in Trelawney could not obtain above three days' work in the week, and for that they received only 1s. per day. In looking the other day over one of the periodicals here, I found what had

escaped my notice in Jamaica, namely, that the Clarendon Agricultural Society have put forth to the world that, as the result of their efforts, they can manufacture sugar, and they have done it, at 8s. to 9s. per cwt. Now this is less than their protecting bounty. On another estate, the overseer of which had obtained a prize for his management, sugar had been manufactured, including all expenses, at 8s. 4d. per cwt. I am quite sure that if any one analyses this sum he will find, after deducting the bookkeeper's salary, the overseer's salary, and all other expenses of that kind, that so far as the labouring man is concerned, sugar is manufactured at 4d. per lb. (Hear, hear.) The fact is, that the grossest delusion has been put upon the public mind; Jamaica is suffering under a system which needs to be cut up by the roots. The reason why sugar is produced cheaper in Cuba than in Jamaica, is not because the planters flog and murder their slaves, but because they manage their own properties. (Hear, hear.) The planters will find, that everybody who wants his business to be done properly, must do it himself. (Hear, hear.) A simple fact will illustrate this in a striking manner. A gentleman appeared the other day at the Anti-Slavery office, and referring to Jamaica and its affairs, he stated that six years ago his estate was 14,000l. in debt. His younger brother went out to see the cause of this heavy encumbrance, and now it has been cleared off, and the proprietors are getting a fair return from the estate. Another estate, near Kingston, in Jamaica, was bought for 6,000l., an estate by no means luxuriant. On that estate the individual who managed it in three years realised the whole of the purchase money, 6,000l., and during the last year, notwithstanding the drought to which it has been subjected, he has put a clear gain in his master's pocket of 1,600l. sterling. Now these are facts, they are published and known as such in Jamaica; and I am happy to say that, as the result, there is about to be formed a model estate. I hope to get one or two shares; I am extremely anxious to see how it works, and I hope that some of our friends will help us. We want to make use of the best machinery that can be obtained; we want to avail ourselves of all the scientific improvements in agriculture; we want to teach the peasants how to use these things; and then if the absentees cannot manage their estates we will manage them ourselves. (Cheers.) The Governor, in his address to the House of Assembly, congratulated that honourable house that under his administration they had begun to use the plough. (A laugh.) The fact that in the year 1845 it should be a source of congratulation that they had commenced using that instrument of husbandry which is so old in this country, shows in what a bad condition they are. (Hear, hear.) I wish to refer to another subject in connection with this of emigration. You are aware that a railroad is about to be made in Jamaica. That railroad is to go through one of the worst swamps that exists in the island. It is to go from Kingston to the Angel—a very queer place certainly for it to stop at. The promoter of that work says, in the prospectus, that "Plenty of labour can be procured at 7s. per week." This is in the "British Quarterly Review," stated there on that authority. I know it to be true that labour can be obtained for that amount per week, but it is right when these things are being sifted, to find out that other people are of the same opinion. Now then, my Christian friends, is it right, I ask, that those freemen should be thus oppressed; that a tariff should be made to prevent them from having that which they ought to have to eat? I ask, is freedom to be blamed for it? No, it is not the fault of freedom. It pleased our heavenly Father to send a drought, and a fearful drought. For nearly two years the heavens sent us scarcely any showers; and it was in the midst of this drought that the tariff was introduced, and the labourer's wages were reduced from 1s. 6d. to 1s. per day. I have taken great pains to ascertain what is the real state of things throughout the island of Jamaica. I have sent circulars to different parts, but I have not received answers from all. This statement comes from a part of the island where the cry for immigration is much greater than in any other. The writer says, "In this neighbourhood, seven years ago, a township called Middlesex, was established. Forty families from Scotland were there located. The expenses of outfit and passage, land, cottages, roads, rations, for the first year, did not cost less than 5,500l. sterling. I have good data for coming to this conclusion. The emigrants, during the year they were fed by Government, did little or nothing. After then some got jobs on the roads, a few employed themselves sawing wood for the peasantry, the rest died. There now remains the place called Middlesex, but the people are for the most part in their graves; but five families remain." (Hear.) I refer to this because the *Times* of this morning states the fact, that there are 120 persons gone out from Gloucestershire and another county, to St. Kitt's. I only wish I could have seen those poor deluded persons. (Hear, hear.) I know it is not one of the aims of this Society to prevent free emigration; but it ought, if it can, to prevent deluded emigration. If others had seen what I have seen, if they had seen the victims of cupidity stretched on the couch and dying, if they had seen shipload after shipload taken to the tomb, they would have warned these unhappy men who are now in your river about to sail to St. Kitt's, of the miseries which await them. O, sir, I cannot tell the whole; and I can assure you that the negro population of Jamaica, while they deeply commiserate the white man when he comes to the island, laugh at the folly of supposing that he can labour under the burning sun of Jamaica. (Hear, hear.) It appears that several intelligent Canadians came to the place to which I have referred; but the master said he did not want people who could read and write, but negroes; they knew too much for him. (Laughter.) A planter and a member of the legislature told me that he had such an abundant supply of labour, and why? because the people can always get their money from him, that he had at times to send away as many as twenty people from his yard, with their hoes on their shoulders. He added, "It grieves me; but what can I do? I employ more people than what I really need, rather than they shall remain at home." Since I have been here, nearly three years, I have never heard a complaint from one of his labourers, while on the estate next to his the manager and the labourers are always disputing. The fact is, sir, it all arises from this. The whole of these disputes, in nine cases out of ten, proceed from the circumstance that the real proprietors of the soil are not there, and that the individuals managing the property, in a great many instances, want to get it themselves. (Hear, hear.) Almost every estate that has been sold in Jamaica lately, has been bought by the individual who ruined it. (Hear, hear.) I know some persons may say, this is a very

hard thing to say; but it is perfectly true. I know many of these estates perfectly well. There was one beautiful estate, worth 10,000*l.*, sold the other day for 3,000*l.* (Hear, hear.) If I had had the money I would have bought it, and that should have been the model estate, on which we could and would have shown what the freeman can do when he has fair play. I am afraid that I have trespassed too long on the time of this assembly. (Cries of "No, no.") There are a great many other facts to which I could have wished to refer; but I would merely, for one moment, appeal to this assembly to stop this emigration. 127,000*l.* has been already squandered away by Jamaica. One person gets 6,000*l.*, another 5,000*l.*, and another 4,000*l.*, and has a trip to Sierra Leone, for which all his expenses are paid; and all this comes out of the salt pork and other things which the peasant has to buy. There ought to be a cry, loud, long, and deep, against the atrocious system of taxing the negro seven or eight hundred per cent. above the ordinary tax for the food which he consumes. I speak, sir, on behalf of our schools. (Hear, hear.) It is not on behalf of the mission that I would plead; but I can assure you that if this state of things is to continue, we shall have to surrender three-fourths of our schools, and the growing population must suffer to an alarming extent. There is nothing which I look to with so much interest, next to the preaching of the cross, as the state of our schools, and the education in them of those who have never experienced the evils of slavery. But it will be impossible for the people to maintain these schools, and to discharge the debts which remain upon them, under the present system. I do sincerely trust that those who have so long been the friends of the slave, and who are still the friends of the freeman, when they see, as they must see from this sketch, (and I could have occupied hours in the detail) that his present distresses have not arisen from any unwillingness to work, but from the system pursued—advisedly and cautiously pursued—to restrict liberty. But we do not despair in our present difficulties, though they excite anxiety in our minds. (Hear, hear.) My friends, I believe these difficulties will pass away. (Cheers.) The present House of Assembly is not to last for ever. Our freeholds are getting riper and riper every day; and we should have sent many of these men to attend to their own business, if the Governor had not, though constitutionally, I think very unwisely, dissolved the House of Assembly one year before the time, that the old party might have the appointment of the new one. But this will pass away. We shall have been prepared by our trials for future action; and I can assure you that we are determined not to let Jamaica sink so long as we can plead on her behalf. (Cheers.) We are not disheartened at all. The sympathy we have received will cheer us on in our missions, and especially in our schools. There is a helping hand and a helping heart still to be found in England. (Hear, hear.) These events will pass away. This tariff must be altered. The next time the Assembly meet, we will pour in petition after petition, and let those men know, that if no other men can be found to go into that House, there we go ourselves, to assert the rights of the negroes, and our determination to protect them from injury. They are as grateful a people as any on the face of the earth. (Hear, hear.) And I think no more fervent prayers are presented than those offered by the emancipated population of the West. (Hear, hear.) They are trodden down; an attempt is made again to enslave them; but our free cottages stand forth the glory of the land, and I believe the time will come when all these efforts will recoil upon the heads of those who made them. (Hear, hear.) I mean this, Sir, that we shall have young men arise as planters, (hear, hear,) and they are beginning to arise, rich men, men who will bring wives with them, and spread their social influence around; and those men who see nothing good in the black, and everything good in the white, will have gone to their account. The result will, I believe, be peaceful, happy, and triumphant. I do consider it a manifest protection of Heaven, that none of our old missionary brethren have been called away, in the midst of these exulting scenes. One and twenty years have I trod that island, and three or four others have also been preserved. I know other and younger brethren who have more piety and energy; but then they have not the same hold of the people, and we are determined that our influence shall be directed to the welfare of the whole community; but the peasant shall not be crushed. (Cheers.) Thus do I propose the resolution for your adoption; thus do I once more take my leave of you, most earnestly desiring that this Society may prosper, that it may be directed by that infinite wisdom which alone can direct aright, and that we, though not associated with you in name, yet in spirit, may live to carry on the glorious work to its completion. One remark more. In the simple article of marriages, to which I do not wish to refer at any length, the delightful increase which has taken place, when considered in connection with the licentiousness which once almost universally prevailed, will, I am confident, be to many in this assembly a source of exceeding pleasure. Before I left home, I found from the records which had just been published by the House of Assembly, that during the last four years—and I refer to this in connection with the awful system which England is likely to produce with regard to the Hill Coolies—there have taken place in Jamaica, from 1841 to 1844, the following marriages:—by the Baptists, 8446; native-ditto, 264; Wesleyan Methodists, 5120; Association, 430; native, 21; Moravians, 2839; Presbyterians, 2382; London Missionary Society, 351; Congregational Ditto, 203; Roman Catholics, 3; Established Church, 8294. So that there have been celebrated in the island of Jamaica, once the den of licentiousness—for it was not drunkenness, but licentiousness that was the great evil—20,059 marriages; and when we believe that in nearly all these marriages there is every day an increase of good, what may we not expect as the result? With one remark, and one only, I close. I will refer to a statement put forth in Blackwood's Magazine; and I shall do this because it cannot be supposed by any in this assembly that the writers for that magazine have any great liking either for Baptist Missionaries, or for negro slaves. In combating the argument, that the Irish labourer is not sufficiently paid for the labour which he performs, they put in one of their Magazines the following statement:—The Irish labourer, say they, obtains 1*s.* per day for his work, which is exactly the same as the negro. This would purchase in Ireland, they state, as follows:—

14 lbs. of potatoes	1½
2 lbs. of oatmeal	2
2 lbs. of bacon	7½
3 qts. of milk	1 — 12d.

The same quantity of food would cost in Jamaica as follows:

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
14 lbs. of yams	1	6
2 lbs. of corn meal	0	6
2 lbs. of pork	1	0
	3	0

Nothing is said about milk. So that, according to Blackwood, the Jamaica labourer would have to pay 3*s.* for the same quantity of food as the Irish labourer can obtain for 1*s.* (Hear, hear, hear.) Thus have I tried to open up some of the facts connected with Jamaica. I take my leave of you, and of this Society, with the most affectionate respect. I have not said all that I could have wished to say; but I have brought home the whole of the original documents from Jamaica, and I hope you will carefully peruse them. You will then find, that not only in these, but also in other ways, is there an attempt made to prejudice the cause of freedom in that island. (Hear, hear.) Would that they were wise! We wish to see the white man prosper, but he must learn first, that he cannot and shall not prosper on the ruin of our brightest hopes with respect to the emancipated population. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. EBENEZER DAVIES (from Berbice) said, I appear before you, Mr. Chairman and Christian friends, with trembling diffidence, to support the resolution which has been already so well supported. I regret the position in which I am placed in having to succeed my excellent and eloquent and powerful brother, the Rev. William Knibb. I appear before you as a friend to the planters. I am a friend to the planters; I declare myself to be so at the outset; I wish the proprietors of estates well; and in all the statements which I may make, I shall bear in mind that very soon I shall be in Berbice again, and shall be responsible for every statement that I make. I shall endeavour, therefore, to speak the truth. The whole truth I cannot speak, for time will not permit. (Hear, hear.) I shall, however, endeavour to speak nothing but the truth. Sir, I never knew the value of this Society until last year; I never knew the worth of this Society until we were threatened with this enormous evil—until we were alarmed by the approach of this monster immigration-scheme,—a monster, however, clothed in the garb of philanthropy, having about it all the horrid features of the old system. (Hear, hear.) I exceedingly rejoice that your attention was so soon drawn to the subject; I exceedingly rejoice in the promptness with which you came forward to our aid. I was afraid, greatly afraid, that the name of "emigration" might delude many in this country; that it would appear to you exceedingly harmless, exceedingly innocent. But you were alive to its enormity; you perceived the hideousness of its form at once. To the system of emigration we object, strongly object, conscientiously object. We regard it as unnecessary. (Hear, hear.) I bear my decided testimony that emigration to British Guiana, under present circumstances, is unnecessary—emigration on the plan which is now contemplated. True, the Colony is extensive enough, and this we are told again and again. We are asked, "Is there not plenty of room for thousands more to come? is there not fertile soil for thousands more to cultivate?" True; but with the present mode of managing the properties, and with the amount of capital which is at present obtainable in the Colony, I maintain that emigration on this plan is unnecessary. There is no want of labour there. Many are unable to obtain the amount of employment which they require. In some localities, I admit, there is a scarcity of labour; but where that is the case, it is entirely the planters' own fault: they have driven the people away to neighbourhoods and localities remote from their estates. When the people wished to purchase small plots of land for themselves, they were exceedingly anxious to obtain them on the very estates where they had always been located, and to which they had always been attached. But this was refused; it was felt to be inconvenient to allow them to purchase land: they were occupiers of cottages, as they were called, though in many instances they were nothing more than mere hovels, sheds, and, in the best form, were only wooden boxes of very limited dimensions. But still to have the labourers in those was thought more convenient than to allow them to have houses of their own. These were made the means of coercing the people to acquiesce in unjust and unreasonable demands. (Hear, hear.) They, therefore, felt the necessity, the absolute necessity, of obtaining houses and shelters for themselves. (Hear, hear.) In order to this they were obliged, in many instances, to go to remote localities, often far up some rivers and creeks, far away from the estates. So that in this manner, by their own folly, the planters have deprived themselves, in some localities, of the amount of labour which they might have secured. We are told that immigration is necessary, because the people are idle. "The people," it is said, "will not work." Now, this is not true. The people are not idle; the people are industrious; and those who are not found working on estates, are found in some other employment calculated to promote their own comfort and the convenience of their families. Our people are not idle. (Cheers.) But we are told that they are extravagantly paid, and that it is necessary to bring the price of labour down to that amount which the planters are able to afford. Now I maintain that the people are not extravagantly paid; that they are rather underpaid than overpaid (hear, hear); they do not obtain for their labour what that labour would fairly yield them; they do not enjoy the fruit of their exertion according to the present price of sugar. The peasantry might be allowed higher, much higher wages than they now obtain were it not for bad management and extravagant habits, with burdened and mortgaged properties. (Hear, hear, hear.) Extravagantly paid! Sir. Not many months ago we had a meeting in a certain school-room at Berbice, and we invited the planters there to meet the people and discuss this subject. Of course, as Christian ministers, we did not wish to encourage our people in idleness or extortion; and if these charges were true, we should adopt every possible means of convincing our people of the impropriety of their conduct. We invited the planters to come: two of them did come; and when the people said that immigration was not necessary, because they themselves could not obtain full employment in that neighbourhood, one of them from an estate at a distance of about five miles from that locality, and on the other side of the wide river of Berbice, said, "You shall never say any more that you have not a sufficiency of employment; I will employ one thousand of you, and give one guilder for seven hours and a half's labour to any that please to come to the estate

under my management." This was regarded by the planters as a splendid offer. A guilder is 1s. 4d. sterling. "But mind you," said he, with emphasis, "I must have seven hours and a half's labour," and for that they were to obtain 1s. 4d. sterling. In order to get this they were to leave their homes and families; they must have a boat, or a corial as it is called, to cross the river, or else be indebted to somebody else for taking them over; they must be absent from their families the whole of the week, and must live by themselves in a more expensive manner than they would live in their own families. I am sure that seven hours and a half's work, under that scorching sun and upon that wet soil, is quite as much as the human frame can sustain. The planters do not expect their horses in that climate to do as much labour as they perform in this; but, strange to say, they seem to expect the same amount of labour from human beings as they obtain in this northern clime. Now, suppose a man to go to that estate, and to work for seven hours and a half each day through the week, what has he at the end of it to take home for the maintenance of his wife and family? (Hear, hear.) Why, he will have just two dollars, or 8s. 4d. sterling, in his hand. Such are the splendid wages obtained in Berbice. I know that in some instances greater wages are occasionally obtained, just as comparatively high wages are sometimes paid in this country; and it is to those instances that we are constantly referred when the object is to show that wages are high. Wages are, in fact, exceedingly low. Ay, and there is another thing to be taken into account, which I had almost forgotten—I mean the price of provisions. (Hear, hear.) What would 8s. 4d. buy there? Their salt fish, and their rice, and their fruit, and their clothing, are all, as in Jamaica, enormously taxed. All provisions are much dearer than in this country. Most provisions are 50 per cent. dearer; many kinds are 100, and even 200 per cent. dearer than in this country. (Hear, hear.) "Oh," says some objector, "all that is very fine; but what do we hear sometimes about the people contributing so largely for schools, and for the erection of chapels, and so forth? If their wages are so low, how is it that they can give so much?" How is it? It is because they have Christian principle; it is because they make efforts, and great efforts too; it is because they in some instances rear small stock, in order that they may be able to contribute to the support of those institutions which are dear to them; and in addition to this, one great secret of their being able to do so much is, that many of them—some thousands—will not touch that rum with which their land flows, and let it all be sent to the silly people of this country rather than touch it themselves. (Laughter.) Mr. Davis here read an extract of a letter he had just received from a valued friend, and an excellent minister, the Rev. R. Jones, of Chapelton, Jamaica, in which he (Mr. D.) was requested to inform the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society that there was no need whatever of immigrants in the locality in which Mr. Jones resided; that the people had only one shilling sterling per diem; and that, though at the time of writing, it was the crop season—the most busy period of the year—yet he knew of no instance where the demand for labour was greater than the supply. The extract closed with an earnest hope that British Christians would put forth their utmost efforts to defeat the iniquitous scheme of Coolie immigration. To the planters carrying on emigration at their own cost there can be no objection, provided they violate none of the principles of justice or of humanity. But when the immigration is all immigration of labour, without any immigration of capital, poverty and wretchedness, in innumerable forms, must assuredly be the consequence. As the friends of the planters we object to this immigration. I do believe that it will ruin the very men who think to be benefited by it. A more impolitic measure was never devised. Look at the absurdity of the whole thing. Look at the figures as they appear before you with regard to British Guiana. Half a million of money is proposed to be borrowed in order to bring 20,000 Coolies to the colony; and this, too, after 100,000l. had been already expended in immigration, and after Lord Stanley has allowed, in the last year, 75,000l. sterling of the money raised by taxes levied on the labouring population of British Guiana, to be laid out upon the immigration of 5,000 Coolies. Only think of the absurdity of paying 15l. to bring a man from India to British Guiana, and 15l. more to take him back, so that every Cooly will cost the colony 30l. sterling. However idle he may be, or however worthless, though he may be the pest of society, that is the amount he costs. Is it not too bad that the labouring population should be taxed, out of their small and hard-earned wages for such a purpose as this? Supposing they succeed in the scheme, and the 20,000 Coolies are brought there, at the end of five years they will be entitled to their passage back; and most assuredly those who survive will claim it. What will then be the position of the planters? They will have driven away their best people; they will have alienated more than ever the affections of the negro population, and they will have brought themselves into a much more deplorable state than they otherwise could have been. (Hear.) We object to this scheme as *unjust*, palpably unjust. Think of taxing a labouring man to bring other labourers to compete with him in the market, with the avowed object of reducing his wages! (Hear, hear.) I call it the avowed object; for it has been avowed again and again. (Hear, hear.) One of the leading planters in Berbice said to me, not very long ago, "Quashy ought to work for two bits a day;" that is about 8½d. sterling; "Quashy must work for two bits a day before long;" and another gentleman there, with whom I was remonstrating the absurdity and injustice of this scheme, said, "O, Sir, we must have immigration, else we shall all be ruined: look at my fellows there, we cannot get them to do at all as I could wish them to do, and if I could get more immigrants, don't you think I would soon send them about their business?" (Hear, hear.) Now that man had the conscience to talk of taxing those "fellows there," in order to introduce other labourers, that he might turn them away. (Hear, hear.) If the planters want labourers, why not lay out their money in procuring them? (Hear.) That is the way honest people act in such a case. This scheme will be productive of *incalculable evils*. It will be attended with an awful mortality; if we judge of the future by the past. One third of the Coolies that were brought from India died, as your Secretary well knows, before their seasoning in British Guiana was over; and of those who survived the seasoning, and set off the other day, as I saw them do, in the "Louisa Bailey," to return to their own country, one man in every five perished on the voyage. (Hear, hear.) This happened notwithstanding every care and precaution being taken to preserve their lives. It was an experiment which many were exceed-

ingly anxious should turn out well; but notwithstanding this anxiety, one-fifth perished on the passage home. We were told of the large amount of money which they took back with them. But amongst how many had that money to be divided? Recollect, too, that the survivors had the dollars of those who had perished and been laid in the grave. In 1840, I had a conversation with the Cooley emigrants. They were an interesting people; I had heard much of them in connection with the name of Mr. Gladstone, and I embraced an opportunity of going to see them on the estate. They were comfortable at that time, for Mr. Scoble had been in the Colony just before. (Laughter.) But I asked one of them who seemed to be, as to his knowledge of English, a little in advance of the rest, "Which do you like best, this country or Calcutta?" "O, Calcutta," said he. "Why," said I, "Calcutta is not such a fine country as this." "O, Calcutta," said he, "better than this." "Then," I said, "if Calcutta is a better country than this, why did you not stay there?" "Ah," was the reply, "white man make fool of we." (Hear, hear.) *Fraud*, then, is one of the features of this scheme. (Hear, hear.) *Discord* must also be engendered by it. There is great antipathy between the African race and the Cooley race: they do not like each other; and the mode in which the leading men are likely at first to treat the Coolies, the kindness which at the outset they will show to the Coolies, and the unkindness and disrespect with which they will treat the other race, must be calculated to foster the spirit of discord. (Hear, hear, hear.) Let it also be borne in mind that the Coolies, when they come, cannot resist the temptation to indulge largely in new rum, and under the influence of that new rum they fight, and fight with fearful weapons. When you glance, too, at the evils which must arise from their coming without anything like a due proportion of women, it is enough to make humanity shudder. (Hear, hear.) But, whilst we deprecate this scheme of the planters, we are prepared to tell them what will contribute to the prosperity of the Colony: for we long for its prosperity. Better friends to this Colony there are none than the instructors of the people and the members of the Anti-Slavery Society. "If you want to prosper, gentlemen," we would say to the planters, "*retrench* in your public expenditure, and retrench in the management of your estates." At present they keep overseers to look after the immediate cultivation of the estate, and managers to look after the overseers, and attorneys to look after the managers; and in the end very little advantage is obtained by the proprietors. O resident proprietorship, what a blessing that would be! (Hear, hear.) That would cure innumerable evils. If the proprietors would only come and look after their own properties, a very different state of things would soon prevail. *Temperance*, too—let them unite in promoting the cause of temperance; not ridicule it as they do, and throw every obstacle in its way on their estates. They license their grog-shops to destroy the people they have; and they take the money to bring others in their stead! Let the *renting system* be, also, fairly adopted there; let them treat the people in such a manner as to secure their confidence, and to give them a direct interest in the produce of the land. Let them be more righteous in their legislation; let them make the people really free, as they are already nominally free; let them give the people a voice in the legislation of the country—at present they have none; and then British Guiana, and the other colonies of the west, will be the abodes of religion, industry, wealth, and happiness. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

Mr. SCOBLE said—I have to submit to you, sir, the following resolution:—

"That this meeting have learned with astonishment and regret from official documents recently laid before Parliament, that there are several thousands of British subjects held in slavery in the colonial possessions of Spain and the Netherlands, and that owing to an alleged legal difficulty, her Majesty's Government decline to press on those powers their immediate deliverance from the cruel and degrading bondage in which they are held. That, persuaded that these unhappy persons have an indefeasible right to their freedom, this meeting would respectfully urge on the Government the necessity of reviewing the ground of their decision, and of taking such active measures for securing them their rights as British subjects as should lead to their speedy restoration to their homes, and to the full enjoyment of the privileges of the emancipated classes in the British colonies."

I should have been exceedingly happy to have been able to explain the precise circumstances in which these individuals are placed. I will not, however, detain the Meeting further than to say, that I hope her Majesty's Government will be disposed to review the grounds on which they have hitherto acted, and that we shall be able to present to you, should we be spared to another year, an account of the liberation of several thousand British subjects who are now held in slavery in Cuba, Surinam, and other foreign colonies. (Cheers.)

Mr. LEWIS F. BELLOT seconded the resolution.

The Chairman said, Perhaps you will allow me to close the Meeting by relating an anecdote. When I was in the island of Dominica, I put myself under the guidance of Mr. Lewis Bellot; and we rode together on horseback to see his estate in the mountains. While we were together on that estate, I observed a little building close by his house, very compact, admirably built, and much stronger and in better order than many of the buildings which had been left by slavery. I saw pigs coming out of it one after another, and I asked him what place it was. "Why," said he, "that was the prison of the estate; that was the cushow in which the negroes were confined." They were confined in that terrible place by the person who preceded our friend in the property, during the apprenticeship, in solitude, without light, without air, tormented by a species of imprisonment which, I venture to say, could not be found in any other country in the world. Now, under the direction of our friend Mr. Bellot, who is a successful planter in Dominica, the prison has become a pigsty. (Hear, and cheers.) Mr. Bellot told me that the produce of the estate had increased 200 per cent. Now in that alone I think we have evidence enough of the immense importance of our cause, and of the blessing which has resulted from the righteous measure of the emancipation of the negro slaves. I do hope, my dear friends, that we shall be faithful to our cause. Having heard of the abuses which are creeping on in many

parts, of the evils of immigration, of the dangerous system of legislation in the Colonies, and of so many points which require perpetual watching and care, as well as most assiduous efforts, I hope every individual in this room will leave it with a solemn determination to give what he can and to do what he can to promote the abolition of slavery all over the world. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. SHERMAN (of Surrey Chapel) said, I am sure our kind friends will think we have a duty to perform before we separate. Our excellent friend, the Chairman, is too well known to need any encomium from me: his works praise him at the gate. My brethren have always counted him a good specimen of a Christian minister; the Christian world have always counted him a good specimen of a Christian; and we teetotallers think him a very good specimen of a teetotaller. As a friend of the Anti-Slavery cause, and as one who has done so much to secure those blessed results which have been brought about by the exertions of this Society, I am sure that his conduct this day, as well as on former occasions, demands and deserves our sincere thanks. I, therefore, beg to propose—That the best thanks of this meeting be tendered to J. J. Gurney, Esq., for his kindness in taking the chair on the present occasion, and for the able manner in which he has discharged its duties.

The Rev. T. SMITH (of Sheffield) in seconding the resolution, said, I have heard all that has passed this morning with astonishment, grief, and sorrow; and this has only been relieved by the consideration that we shall all of us go home with a resolution that whatever the case allows and admits, we will do and continue to do, to destroy a system so thoroughly evil, so nefarious, and so guilty.

The resolution was put by the Rev. J. Sherman, and carried unanimously, after which the Meeting separated.

The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, MAY 28, 1845.

We have ventured upon a double number to-day, in order to present to our readers a full report of the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, which was held at the Hall of Commerce on the 17th instant. We are happy to say that the meeting was a very pleasant, and, as we hope, a very useful one. The proceedings throughout will be read by all friends of the anti-slavery cause with satisfaction. If, where all was so good, any part may be singled out from the mass, it may not unnaturally be the addresses of Mr. Knibb and Mr. Davies, whose long residence in the colonies—the one in Jamaica and the other in British Guiana—eminently qualifies them to speak on some of the most important and exciting questions now agitated. Their statements on the labour and immigration question deserve to be deeply pondered, and are adapted, we think, to decide it with every considerate mind. Of great importance also is Mr. Knibb's exhibition of that course of plunder by taxation which has been systematically pursued by the Legislature of Jamaica towards the peasantry. That our sweet-mouthed contemporary of the *Colonial Gazette* should be out of humour with such a meeting is natural, and does not at all surprise us. But this itself is one of the encouraging elements of the case, and combines with the approbation of the good and the humane to cheer us onward in the work of righteousness and mercy. Our friends will, of course, give due attention to the Report of the Committee.

DR. CHALMERS has at length delivered his judgment on the question of religious fellowship with slaveholders. Having withdrawn from all public participation in the proceedings of the Free Church, so that he would have had no opportunity of explaining himself in the ensuing General Assembly of that body, he has availed himself of the columns of the *Witness*, in a late number of which a long letter from him on the subject appears. In this letter, we are sorry to say, the Doctor pronounces the refusal of religious fellowship to slaveholders to be "most unjustifiable." We will examine briefly the course of argument he pursues.

He begins by laying down the position, that slaveholding is not necessarily inconsistent with piety. A slaveholder, he says, *may be* a Christian. No doubt of it; inasmuch as he may have become such by the act of another over which he had no control, or in circumstances in which he was unapprised of the evil of it. But will Dr. Chalmers say that a person who, after having been faithfully warned in the spirit of the gospel, voluntarily continues to hold a fellow-creature in bondage can, in the judgment of enlightened charity, be deemed a Christian? This he has not done; and we must confess our doubts whether he could do it. Expressing no opinion on this point, he has missed the gist of the question, and avoided its chief difficulty. This is the actual case of the American slaveholder, and upon the elements comprehended in it we think there ought to be but one decision.

Having laid it down that a slaveholder may be a good man, he next admits that slavery is deplorably fruitful of vicious and criminal habits. Let your discipline, says he, deal, not with slaveholding, but with these its fruits. "Exclude from ordinances, not any man as a slaveholder, but every man, whether slaveholder or not, as licentious, as intemperate, as dishonest." Now we ask whether the very fact of slaveholding does not essentially embody one of the crimes here mentioned? Can anything be more dishonest than for a man to set up a claim of property in his fellow-man? Or can any man be properly allowed to be honest till he absolutely renounces a claim so essentially iniquitous? Dr. Chalmers here writes as though slaveholding were an abstract thing, separable from the fact

of holding a human being in slavery. If slaveholding be anything, it is the maintenance of a right of property in man. If there be anything dishonest in the world this is so. And if dishonesty is, as Dr. Chalmers affirms, a fit cause of refusing religious fellowship, it ought, on his own showing, to be refused to slaveholders.

Dr. Chalmers goes on to recommend that the churches which contain slaveholders should be particularly strict in the correction of the vices of which slavery is so prolific. He does not seem to know that the natural and inevitable effect of constituting churches of slaveholders is to screen their characteristic vices, and to render a faithful discipline impossible. He tells us that he has "seen" that admirable pamphlet of Mr. Birnie, "American Churches the Bulwark of American Slavery," and that he has read "the title" of it; but certainly, as yet, he can have read nothing more than the title.

This distinguished man, however, who, to do him justice, admits American slavery to be "a system full of abominations and horrors," has his plan of abolition, and chalks out what he deems a preferable and an effectual course to the Abolitionists. He recommends them to watch the proceedings of the slaveholding churches, and to publish in England the proofs of their laxity of discipline; ay, to "verify the instances, and tell them in detail." And he has the simplicity to think that accounts of this sort would wake up the indignation of all churches on this side the Atlantic to renounce their fellowship! Why, practically this has been already done in the pamphlet which Dr. Chalmers has seen, but not read; and if any statements of this class could produce the effect anticipated, those made by Mr. Birnie must do so. In some cases they have done so. But some churches, it seems, can sleep in the midst of all appeals, and will hear neither the wail of tortured humanity on the one hand, nor the cry of dishonoured Christianity on the other.

Dr. Chalmers concludes this part of his letter, by disclosing to us the amount of reformation which he would in his way clear to make in the American system. He would allow no ministers of Jesus Christ to be *slave-dealers*! No! really he would not! And yet not because there would be anything wrong in it, nor because it would produce any certain mischief; but "lest it should brutalise them"—a result, which, although it may not be "the invariable effect" in America, is, he begs pardon for saying, "the tendency of the system." He sees no reason at all for preventing the brutalising of church members; his care extends only to the ministers! Our readers will scarcely believe what we have now written. Most sincerely do we wish it were a misrepresentation.

After thus dispatching the question of principle, Dr. Chalmers touches on that of prudence. He judges it unwise for Abolitionists to press the renunciation of fellowship with slaveholders on the Free Church. He thinks it will be discreditable to that body to yield "to the bidding of another party" on such a subject. It is quite beneath the Doctor, we think, to make this unworthy appeal to the pride of his brethren. If the principle presented to them be indeed "factitious and new," "gotten up for an occasion," and not "drawn from the repositories of that truth which is immutable and eternal," let it on these grounds be dismissed. But if, as we have endeavoured to show, the fact is the reverse, let not wise counsel be rejected because of the quarter from which it comes. Both Dr. Chalmers and his brethren are familiar with a proverb which teaches that it is proper to learn even from an enemy; how much more so from a friend! If the members of the Free Church shrink from dishonour, they should much rather eschew the rejection of truth from personal pique, than its frank reception at the hands of a stranger or a foe.

Before concluding his letter, Dr. Chalmers endeavours to fortify his position by two examples. He adduces in the first instance that of Mr. Joseph John Gurney, who, on a late religious visit to America, reserved the expression of his sentiments on slavery till the close of his evangelical tour. We are glad that Dr. Chalmers thinks so highly of Mr. Gurney's conduct as thus to quote it for his protection. But did he forget that this gentleman belongs to a Christian society which holds no fellowship with slaveholders? What would the Doctor think of imitating him in this respect also?

Dr. Chalmers adduces, in the next place, the memorials lately presented to the American Board of Foreign Missions, and applauds the reply of that body, which is to the effect that they, as a Missionary Board, have nothing to do with slavery, either to approve or disapprove, to sustain or to overthrow. He hopes that the Free Church will come to the same conclusion, namely, that the removal of American slavery "does not practically or executively come within their province as a church in a distant land." Now this, we take it, is altogether remote from the matter in hand. The question is not whether the Free Church of Scotland shall "practically and executively" undertake the removal of American slavery—the very notion is absurd—but whether, by a cordial recognition of slaveholding churches in America, they shall render to "a system full of abominations and horrors" a practical and powerful support? To this question we have yet hope that the Free Church will answer, No.

A noble example to the Free Church, and one which we hope they will not be slow to follow, has just been set by a branch of the ecclesiastical body in Scotland of somewhat humbler pretensions. We refer to the Reformed Presbytery of Edinburgh, which met on the 30th of April, and unanimously adopted a series of resolutions in reference to American slavery, and church-fellowship with slaveholders, of a most satisfactory and admirable kind. We are sorry

that our pages do not to-day afford room for the insertion of this most gratifying document at length; but we quote the second resolution, as being perfectly explicit on the point chiefly in question, and as exhibiting a fair sample of the style and spirit of the whole.

"2. That persons wilfully continuing in these sinful practices, notwithstanding the light of the gospel shining around them, are unworthy of admission to Christian privileges in any department of the church of Christ; and that any church receiving such persons into full communion, holding them as Christian brethren not walking disorderly, or admitting them to office, is partaker of their sins, upholding the cause of the oppressor against the oppressed, and bringing dishonour on the blessed name and the holy religion of the Divine Redeemer."

We have noticed every part of Dr. Chalmers's letter, that we might not be deemed wanting in the respect due, either to the distinguished individual himself, or to the great cause which may in some measure be affected by it. We should have been happy if a name so deservedly illustrious and influential could have been enrolled among the band of devoted and consistent abolitionists of our times; but, since it may not be so, we are still more happy to think that the cause of humanity and freedom is quite independent of individuals, however eminent, and sure of its consummation, whatever may be the obstacles opposing its progress.

Before concluding our remarks, we must say one word on a letter which appears in the *Witness* of a subsequent date, from the Rev. W. Chalmers, one of the deputation from the Free Church to the United States. This gentleman thinks proper to endorse Dr. Cunningham's infamous assertion, that "the American abolitionists, technically so called, are as a body altogether undeserving of respect and confidence;" and he does so by citing the eccentricities, to use no stronger term, of William Lloyd Garrison! He evidently believes that the small party headed by Mr. Garrison constitute the whole body of American abolitionists! Is there any means of making these gentlemen aware that there is a much larger body of abolitionists in the United States, altogether free from the peculiarities which are so offensive to them, and worthy, as a body, of the highest confidence and respect? Mr. Chalmers ought to know that Mr. Garrison's name was not attached to the letter which was addressed to the deputation in the United States, by several gentlemen describing themselves as the Executive Committee of an Anti-Slavery Society; and that that society was, not the American, but the *American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*.

THE West India mail brings no news of importance. The only topic we need notice here is the issue of the proceedings respecting the petition of the Rev. E. A. Walbridge, a missionary in British Guiana, for the separation of the Church from the State. We stated in a former number that the Combined Court had referred this petition to the law-officers of the Crown in that colony, for an opinion whether its language was or was not seditious. We now find that both these functionaries concur in the judgment that it is not so according to Dutch law, but one of them, in opposition to the other, thinks it is so according to English law. And the petition has accordingly been referred to the Secretary of State! It is difficult to speak with gravity of this solemn farce, or to express in any terms fit to be written our sense of the ignorance and infatuation of men who are thus bent on manufacturing indictable offences out of the commonest use of the commonest rights of Englishmen. A few extracts from the papers will be found in another column. We are sorry to see that Lord Stanley leans to the encouragement of private speculation in the immigration trade, after the example of the *Roger Stewart*, in Berbice.

It affords us sincere pleasure to find that the publications which have recently been undertaken on the continent of Europe for the advancement of the anti-slavery cause are vigorously sustained. We have been gratified by receiving the first Number of the *Abolitioniste Français* for the present year, in which we have read with much satisfaction the review of the recent debate in the Chamber of Peers. We learn with pleasure that the periodical issued by our friends in Holland has attained a sale so extensive as completely to cover the expenses of its publication. We notice also with much interest a work of Don Jose A. Saco, on the suppression of the African slave-trade in Cuba, as at once safe to its agriculture, and necessary to its security; a work from which we hope hereafter to present to our readers some valuable extracts.

THE *Times* of Monday and Wednesday last contains the following articles, which, although stated to be from "A Correspondent," may probably be regarded as a correct representation of the facts:—

"THE NEW SLAVE-TRADE TREATY.—(From a Correspondent.)—All but the smallest items being not only fixed upon, but reduced to necessary form, the new slave-trade treaty will be signed before Friday next, when the Duke de Broglie will probably leave England. He is expected to reach Paris by Monday or Tuesday. Prince Charles, his son, and secretary to the mission, left on Friday. The preamble of the new treaty sets forth that the Queen of England and King of France (the parties most deeply bound to the execution of this duty from their superior naval resources) deeming that the treaties of 1831 and 1833 have produced all the effect they were capable of, are desirous of forming another compact suited to the present emergency, in order, more effectually, to repress the slave-trade. They have accordingly drawn up the present treaty, to endure for ten years, unless, at a period to be appointed, (which will probably be towards the fifth year,) their mutual efforts should have proved insufficient and unsatisfactory. It is there-

fore arranged that France shall keep on the western coast of Africa a fleet consisting half of steamers and half of sailing ships, the number amounting to not less than 27; and that the naval force employed by England will be of the same character, calibre, and amount, exercising simultaneously due vigilance on the flags of their respective nations. The treaty has been brought to this rapid termination by the confidence placed in the Duke de Broglie. It is satisfactory to state that the representatives of foreign powers who signed the last treaty, not ratified by France, have shown the greatest goodwill on the present occasion, being animated by feelings of amity to both the high contracting parties, and desirous under every circumstance to see energetic and effective measures employed for the repression of the slave-trade. The feeling which animates the British Government is that which it has displayed already in the compact with America—namely, a desire to prove its sincere wish to suppress an outrage to human nature, apart from any views as regards the empire of the seas—a confirmation of the spirit which led to the sacrifice of 20,000,000*l.* to liberate the slaves in the British Colonies.

"THE NEW SLAVE-TRADE TREATY.—In confirmation of our statement in *The Times* of yesterday, relative to the proposed treaty between France and England for the suppression of the slave-trade, we believe we may now state that the treaty will be signed to-morrow. It will consist of ten articles, and its duration is limited to ten years, subject to revocation at the expiration of five years if its operation is found to be unsatisfactory to the interests of either of the parties. Perfect amity between the two nations being the great object in view, it is hoped that all jealousies and complaints will be obviated by the ships of war of each nation visiting the vessels under their own flags. Instead of the ships of each nation amounting to 27, as we stated yesterday, the number will be limited to 26. They will possess the power of stopping the vessels they meet, and ascertaining by their papers whether they belong to the country whose flag they bear. By the number and simultaneous presence of the ships of the two nations, it is believed that any ill consequences from this new arrangement will be avoided. As soon as the articles of the treaty were agreed upon, their tenor was communicated to the representatives of Russia, Austria, and Prussia, at this Court."

Literary Notice.

The Sugar Question made Easy. By C. F. STOLLMEYER.
London, 1845, pp. 19.

THE author of this pamphlet was, it appears, a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society, "when the Pennsylvania Hall was burnt down by an ignorant and prejudiced mob," whose vengeance he well-nigh provoked by rebuking their frenzy as editor and proprietor of the *German National Gazette*. He brings to the treatment of the sugar question both his American knowledge and his American style. He speaks strongly of the capacity of maize, otherwise called Indian corn, for yielding sugar, and makes statements which go to show that it has great advantages over the sugar-cane. He announces the fact that a mode has been discovered by Mr. Etzler, of crystallizing sugar without heat or boiling, and this at about one fifth of the cost of the usual way. He strongly insists, also, on the use of machinery in the manufacture of sugar, facetiously calling the machines "iron slaves," and affirming that "one iron slave, at a purchase of less than 500*l.*, if driven by either steam or water power, will do the work of three hundred human slaves." He concludes with the following advice to the West Indians:—

"Awake, then, ye West Indians, from the stupor in which you seem to have fallen! Cease from dancing in the antechambers of ministers and the lobbies of Parliament, begging for delusive means of retaining or increasing your wealth, and *examine* and *apply* your own resources. Trust to the powers of nature: they will not deceive you, like political powers, and for once take your own business in your own hands. Your lands need no guano to supply the want of solar heat. Your products never get out of fashion; since the desire for them will increase with the supply, cheapness of production and sale, and with the increase of population; and your estates need not be abandoned, if you will not persist in refusing to profit by the advancement of science and the mechanical arts."—p. 17.

There is much point and good sense in this pamphlet, and we trust it will gain the ear of parties interested in sugar cultivation.

INTERVIEW WITH HIS HIGHNESS THE BEY OF TUNIS, IN RELATION TO THE ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE IN NORTH AFRICA.

"Tunis, 17th April, 1845.

"MY DEAR SIR,—On the 14th inst. I had the pleasure of being again introduced to his Highness the Bey of Tunis, when we had some conversation on the abolition of the slave-trade in North Africa. On mentioning to his Highness the difficulties with which I was met in Morocco, and that the Emperor himself was afraid to entertain the question of the abolition of slavery on account of the fanaticism of his people, his Highness observed—'Alas! those people are very obstinate, and want some one to instruct them.' I then told the Bey that a French writer and deputy, Mons. Desjoubert, had published a book, in which he said, 'that Tunis was more advanced in the work of the emancipation of negro-slavery than France herself, with all her boasted civilization:' when his Highness, smiling, replied, 'I have opened the way. I have abolished the sale of slaves, and I will never leave the work of emancipation whilst a slave remains in my dominions.' It is pro-

bable that his Highness contemplates some measure to be immediately put in force for the liberation of all slaves in this country, the Bey having given such an intimation to Sir Thomas Reade the other day, when the consul thanked his Highness, in the name of the British Government, for his continued perseverance in the humane and glorious work of emancipating the negro-slaves of his dominions. Having informed his Highness of my journey to Tripoli in a few days, I took leave of him, the Bey wishing me all success in my future efforts.

"Yours most faithfully,
"JAMES RICHARDSON.

"John Scoble, Esq."

THE SLAVE-TRADE TREATY WITH BRAZIL.

(From the Times.)

THE treaties existing between this country and Brazil for the suppression of the slave-trade differ materially from those which have been concluded since the year 1830 with various Powers in Europe and America. At the time of the emancipation of the Brazilian empire from the control of Portugal, the slave-trade treaty in force between the latter kingdom and Great Britain was that of the 28th of July, 1817. That convention was intended to establish certain limitations on the slave-trade, until the period should arrive when, according to the fourth article of the treaty of 1815, the King of Portugal should prohibit the traffic throughout the dominions of Portugal. It was accompanied by certain provisions for the repression of the illicit trade in slaves, by establishing the mutual right of search, and for regulating the proceedings of the Mixed British and Portuguese commissions, which were to reside on the coast of Africa, in Brazil, and in London, and these subsidiary documents were signed by Lord Castlereagh and Count Palmella on the same day. On the 11th of September following a separate article was also signed, by which it was agreed that as soon as the total abolition of the slave trade for the subjects of the crown of Portugal should have taken place, the convention of the 28th of July should be adapted to that state of circumstances; but in default of such alterations that the convention should remain in force for fifteen years from the day on which the general abolition of the slave-trade should so take place on the part of the Portuguese Government. Such was the state of our relations with Portugal on this subject, until the pledges of that power were at length fulfilled by the treaty of 1842.

With Brazil the case was widely different. After the separation of the empire of Brazil from the kingdom of Portugal, a convention was signed between the Emperor and the King of England, which was ratified in London on the 13th of March, 1827. By the first article of this treaty it was agreed that, "at the expiration of three years, to be reckoned from the exchange of ratifications, it should not be lawful for Brazilian subjects to be concerned in the carrying on of the African slave-trade under any pretext or manner whatever, and the carrying on of such trade after that period by any person subject of his Imperial Majesty should be deemed and treated as piracy." By the other articles of this treaty the contracting parties renewed and applied to themselves, *mutatis mutandis*, the convention of the 28th of July, 1817, existing between Great Britain and Portugal, and all the instructions, regulations, and explanatory articles thereunto annexed.

The Brazilian Government now argues and declares, that in pursuance of the tenor of the separate article of the 11th of September, 1817, the duration of all these instruments was limited to a period of fifteen years from the total abolition of the slave-trade; and that such total abolition was expressly fixed by the Brazilian treaty of 1827 to take place at the expiration of three years from the 13th of March, 1827. Assuming, therefore, that such total abolition did take place, as in pursuance of her treaty it ought to have done, on the 13th of March, 1830, the remaining period of fifteen years during which the Portuguese convention of 1817 remained in force expired on the 13th of March, 1845. A notification has, therefore, been published by the Brazilian Minister of Justice, dated the 15th of March, 1845, by which it is declared that the treaty originally concluded on the 28th of July, 1817, having expired, the right of search and the mixed commissions established by the instruments annexed to that convention are terminated.

Serious doubts may be entertained as to the applicability of this limitation of time, which is exclusively contained in the separate article of the 11th of September, 1817; and, whatever may be the terms of the treaty, the fact is sufficiently patent and notorious that the total abolition of the slave-trade has not taken place. But, without entering at this moment upon these particulars, we shall confine ourselves to one observation. Whatever may be the legal duration of the Portuguese treaty originally concluded in 1817, and imported into Brazil by the convention of 1827, this last-mentioned instrument is permanent in its character and is in full force at the present moment. The first article of this convention, which we have already quoted, declares that the carrying on of the slave trade by any Brazilian subject, after the expiration of three years from the exchange of ratifications, shall be DEEMED AND TREATED AS PIRACY; and this stipulation undoubtedly subsists.

Whereas, therefore, the British Government has vainly endeavoured to obtain from other countries this assimilation of the slave-trade to piracy, and whereas the machinery of mixed commissions and foreign warrants has been introduced to supply the want of a more direct and effectual mode of proceeding, the Brazilians have by their own treaty made the slave-trade a piratical offence; and

have consequently rendered their ships and subjects engaged in it on the high seas amenable to the penal laws of all civilised nations. The special stipulations of the treaty of 1817 are said to have lapsed. Be it so; if they have ceased to be of effect for one party, they have ceased for the other; and the Brazilian Government has constantly refused to extend them by the introduction of what is termed the equipment article, which has been agreed to by all other powers. We revert, therefore, to the plain language of the first article of the treaty of 1827; and unless the Brazilians think fit to solicit a renewal of those conventions which they allege to be extinct, with the addition of all the more recent provisions, her Majesty's cruisers will, no doubt, be instructed that the subjects of his Imperial Majesty, being engaged in the African slave-trade, are pirates, and as such entitled to no protection from their own Government, and exposed to the utmost rigour of the maritime law of nations.

EMIGRATION OF INDIAN LABOURERS TO THE MAURITIUS.

From the Report of the Land and Emigration Commissioners, recently laid before Parliament, we make the following extracts, relating to the emigration of Coolies from India to Mauritius:—

NUMBER IMPORTED UNDER THE NEW REGULATIONS.

From the commencement (in January, 1843,) of the bounty immigration, under the order in council, of 15th January, 1842, to its conclusion, in March, 1844, there arrived two hundred ships with the following immigrants:—

	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Indians . . .	34,339	4,530	1,449	40,318
Chinese, &c. .	838			838
Total . . .	35,177	4,530	1,449	41,156

On the whole immigration, the number of deaths on the voyage was 422, and of deaths in hospital after arrival, 152.

In the first six months to September, 1844, from the commencement of the immigration, under the plan of collecting and despatching the people from India by government officers alone, ten ships had arrived, conveying—

Indians—Males, 1,935; Females, 355; Children, 203; Total, 2,493.

The deaths on the voyage were 58 in number, and in hospital after arrival, 2.

It will thus be seen that in a year and three quarters, nearly 44,000 immigrants had been introduced into the colony. Although circumstances at first retarded the rate at which emigrants could be furnished under the new system, Mr. Caird (the emigration agent at Calcutta) has assured the Governor that before the expiration of the year, he can transmit, without difficulty, the whole number of 6,000. Latterly, also, the arrivals had much increased.

We observe, that in a reply of the Governor, dated the 19th March, 1844, to an address from the unofficial members of council, he estimated the total numerical amount at that time of Indian agricultural labourers of all descriptions in the colony, at fully 50,000 persons. Of this number, 40,000 have arrived since the recommencement of immigration in 1843.

MORTALITY.

During the spring and summer of 1844, there was a large mortality among the Indians after entering into service. From the commencement of the bounty system to the end of March, 1844, when it ceased, and the existing regulations came into operation, out of 41,156 people who had arrived, there were 1245 deaths. In the first quarter of 1844 the deaths amounted to 692; in the second, 922; and in the third, 671.

In consequence of this mortality, the attention of the local legislature had been drawn to the subject of the labourers' wages, their diet, lodging, and hospital treatment, and Sir William Gomm anticipates much good will ensue from the precautionary measures adopted. The question of establishing district hospitals, was, at the date of the last despatches, under the consideration of the local authorities. It is satisfactory to know, that in the last quarter for which there are returns, not only had the whole mortality decreased, as above shown, but that the decrease was progressive and becoming more rapid. The deaths were—in July, 727; August, 237; September, 157; or 1121 in all.

Dysentery seems to have been the principal complaint, but epidemic or bilious remittent fever appears to have been also very prevalent. The sickness was attributed in Mauritius partly to the original ineligibility of some of the Indians, whose constitutions are stated to be naturally delicate, and to their great bodily exertion and intemperance at the Mahometan and Hindoo festivals. It has also been stated, that the religious prejudices of the Hindoos interfere with their eating food cooked on board, and that, consequently, they are landed in a state of debility from the want of proper nourishment, and are extremely susceptible of disease.

But the chief cause of the sickness appears to have been a long continuance of unhealthy weather, which had also materially affected the health of the white population. At Port Louis, for instance, the Governor mentions, that in the first three months of 1844, the deaths were 884, the births only 320. It is distinctly stated, that there are not in the island any local causes of unhealthiness, such as swamps, or marshy grounds, or the presence of any visible agency that could generate malaria.

MODE OF ENGAGING THEIR SERVICES.

Some difficulties have arisen on the manner in which parties should have an opportunity of forming engagements with immigrants on their arrival in the Mauritius. At first it appears that practically all the engagements were made through the intervention of the resident Sirdars, but that this was put an end to on account of the abuses it was found to engender. Instead of it, arrangements have been made for admitting

Europeans to treat directly with the immigrants, but confining this admission to the actual cultivators of estates, "or their *bonâ fide* representatives." Houses of agency have not been admitted under this latter term, because of a difficulty which is said to have been experienced in applying their intervention with fairness; but some complaints have in consequence been made in England. We must confess, that if the attendance of the proprietor of an estate himself be required on each occasion that he may wish to hire labourers, this would appear to us a hardship. But if it may be inferred from the expression, "or their *bonâ fide* representatives," that the attendance of a party actually attached to, or resident on each separate estate, will suffice, the plan would no longer be open to the same objection; and we can imagine advantages that may result from a direct communication at the time of engagement, between the labourers and the person who is to be immediately over them during their period of service.

WAGES PAID THE INDIAN LABOURERS.

Authority was given to announce that the rates of wages to agricultural labourers at the Mauritius would be five rupees per measure for the men, and three for the women, exclusive of food, clothing and lodging.

The number of Coolies to be shipped in future from British India is limited to 500 per month, exclusive of women and children.

MORTALITY OF COOLIES ON RETURN VOYAGE.

We regret to state, that in two vessels, considerable mortality appears to have occurred amongst emigrants on the return passage, from the Mauritius to India. The brig *Watkins* of 236 tons, sailed in November, 1843, with 149 passengers for Calcutta, and lost no less than forty-four persons, of whom one was the master. The voyage lasted seventy-four days. The *Baboo*, apparently a barque of 423 tons, sailed with 270 passengers for Madras and Calcutta, of whom sixteen died. The evidence on the dimensions of the vessels is not complete, but we are inclined to think that both carried a greater number of passengers than was desirable. In the *Baboo*, the treatment of the passengers is said to have been praiseworthy throughout, and much of the sickness is ascribed by Sir William Gomm to the unhealthy state of the island when the ship sailed. In the *Watkins*, it is not denied, that the ventilation was defective, and it is admitted, that the passengers did not receive their full supply of water. The passage was unusually long. As the *Watkins* conveyed passengers to Calcutta at the cost of the Government, and as a clause in the charter party provides that one moiety of the passage money shall be kept back until the arrival of the people, and be subject to forfeiture if the authorities are not satisfied with their treatment, the Indian Government withheld this payment in respect of the parties sent to Calcutta in this vessel. We hope, that in future, the Passenger's Act will have been brought into operation at Mauritius since the sailing of the above-mentioned vessel, may preclude the recurrence of similar cases.

Colonial Intelligence.

BARBADOES.—Barbadoes is going on very well. From the 1st of January to the 5th instant, the planters have managed to ship as much as about 10,000 hhds. of sugar. The crop will be larger than any made for many years. Crop time ending in the middle of July, at the above rate Barbadoes will turn out not less than 20,000 tons this year. Commerce is brisk. There have been large arrivals within the last week or two of English and American vessels, and we observe American provisions in consequence have much fallen in price. —*Guiana Gazette*.

TRINIDAD.—During the greater portion of the month the weather has been uninterruptedly fine, and in every respect favourable to sugar-making. A material change has, however, taken place within the last few days, during which we have had regular and rather heavy showers, —ominous intimations of a probable breaking up. This, we trust, may not happen yet, as it would prove exceedingly prejudicial to the planters. The return of produce shipped from 1st January to 31st March, is as follows:—4,736 hogsheads, 391 tierces, 924 barrels sugar; 2,008 puncheons, 80 tierces molasses; 2 puncheons rum; 723,067 lbs. cocoa; and 23,164 lbs. coffee. Immigrants continue to come in slowly from the islands. During the past month, 123 men and women and 21 children were returned as the number that had arrived. The first Coolie ship is daily expected from India. —*Grenada Gazette*.

BRITISH GUIANA.—A communication from the Attorney and Solicitor-General was read, having reference to the question submitted to them by the Court, whether or not the language made use of in a petition of certain members of the congregation of Smith Chapel, was seditious; and stating that, in their opinion, it did not amount to the legal description of the crime in the Dutch law called "sedition." Mr. Rose immediately moved that reference be again made to the law officers as to whether or not the language was, according to the English law, seditious. This was strenuously opposed by the Attorney-General, on the ground that, even if the answer were in the affirmative, no ulterior proceedings could be taken. The motion was, however, carried. At a later hour, a communication from the Solicitor-General, on the same subject, was read; the tenor of which was, that the expressions made use of in the petition were highly improper and dangerous, and that, under the English law, there was sufficient to justify a criminal prosecution for a seditious libel. —*Guiana Royal Gazette*.

Foreign Intelligence.

UNITED STATES.—We see, by the American papers, that Alanson Work, one of the three young men imprisoned in the Missouri Penitentiary, for aiding the escape of slaves, has been set at liberty.

TEXAS.—We give the following summary of the news received since our last:—

The *New Orleans Picayune* says:—"On the 3rd ult. Senor Guevas, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to the Chambers a long and general memorial appertaining to his department. He places strong apparent confidence in the interference of European powers, which, although assenting to Texan independence, may, he trusts, oppose the further enlargement of United States territory." The following passage occurs in it:—"Texas declared as independent would not care to be annexed to the United States; but not so the latter. The recognition of the independence of Texas would not lead us into a war with the United States, but annexation must. As an independent state, European powers will prevent Texas from forming a part of the American republic."

The papers of the city of Mexico and of Vera Cruz continue to be occupied almost exclusively with the subject of annexation. The official paper, *El Diario del Gobierno*, of the 3rd inst., announces that it is in possession of certain movements on the part of the Government of a warlike character, which it is constrained to withhold from the public, as secrecy is the soul of military operations; but expresses a hope that the speedy and successful issue of these operations will soon relieve the public curiosity in regard to them.

The *New York Journal of Commerce* publishes the following important extract of a letter from the city of Mexico, dated the 28th of March:—"The Government has issued orders for the defence of the ports, fortresses, &c.; and it is acknowledged that if Texas does not comply with their last request, war will be openly declared."

And the *New Orleans Bulletin* again says:—"A letter from a respectable source in Vera Cruz, under date of the 2nd inst., says, that an act had passed to a second reading in the Mexican Congress, making it high treason for any person to propose a recognition of the independence of Texas, or the peaceable possession of that country by the United States. A majority of the members, it is further stated, are in favour of active hostilities against Texas, in order to provoke a war, and throw the onus of it on the United States."

FRANCE.—On the 12th of February, M. Agenor Gasparin laid on the table of the Chamber of Deputies a petition from the inhabitants of the commune of Neuville, (Loiret,) praying for the abolition of slavery in the French colonies. —*French Abolitionist*.

BEE-ROOT SUGAR.—Not more than three years have passed since the beet-root sugar manufactories in France amounted in number to nearly 400; now they scarcely exceed 300. Thus there has been a decrease of nearly one-fourth. This is the natural result of the laws which have successively augmented the duties imposed upon home-made sugar. We should not have made any remark on this fact, if we had not at the same time observed a considerable increase, in a proportion, indeed, which it would have been difficult to foretell two years ago, in the fabrication of this species of aliment. It amounted at the same period of the last season to 27,666,000 kilogrammes, and now, within the present season, it has arisen to 34,666,000 kilogrammes; that is to say, a production much greater than in any of the former seasons—and the present season has yet four months to run; but it is true that this portion is very little productive. Such is the effect of the improvement in the processes of the manufacture. At home and abroad, in all parts of the world, accounts of the admirable results of their application are given. Science and industry surely have no right to complain, nor have the consumers. It may be predicted that the time is near at hand when the improvements in the manufacture of sugar will give double the produce in proportion to the raw materials used, that was given before the contest between the home-made and colonial sugars. —*Journal des Debats*.

Miscellanea.

CAPTURE OF THE CELEBRATED SLAVE FELUCCA, WHICH ENGAGED THE GROWLER'S PINNACE.—Extract of a Letter, dated Sierra Leone, March 30, 1845:—"The two celebrated fast-sailing armed Spanish Feluccas (the *Hurican* and *Pepita*) which had so frequently escaped from the fleetest cruisers on the coast, carrying away annually more than 3,000 slaves—have at length been captured by her Majesty's steam-vessel *Hydra*, in the Bight of Benin; the former is the vessel that engaged the *Growler's* pinnace in the west bay, near the Sherboro' River, about the middle of January; this was an infamous act, for they hove to for the boat, which could not otherwise have overtaken them, and allowed her to approach within thirty yards, when a fierce fire was opened upon her from some swivel pieces, carrying one pound balls, and from more than fifty muskets. It was quite a miracle that a single man in the pinnace escaped. The mizen of the felucca shows the effect of the boats' fire, for it is thoroughly perforated, and the mainsail is also much cut up, besides which five men who were named in the felucca's papers were not in her when she was captured; they no doubt fell in the engagement. The felucca's crew consisted of upwards of sixty men, and these a desperate, determined set of villains. There were 700 slaves ready for this vessel at the Gallinas, but only 70, which she had picked up in the Bights, were found on board. The *Hydra's* second prize, the *Pepita*, was taken eight days after the first capture. This was a night chase, and a very interesting one; the felucca, persisting in her endeavours to get away, after she had been several times struck by the steamers' 68-pounders, most of which went through her sails, as the firing was purposely high; but one tore up her bulwarks. She carried on, however, until the steamer came up with her, when she was boarded and taken possession of by the first lieutenant, who found a long 18-pounder gun, loaded with round shot and grape, pointed over her quarter, several swivel pieces for one pound balls, loaded, and four large chests of arms, all loaded, most of them with two balls, and some with slugs. Even the pistols were double-shotted. The deck was strewn with round and grape shot; and there was a cask full of cartridges for the gun close at hand, besides 200 rounds in the magazine.

The crew are desperate rascals, and do not hesitate to commit acts of piracy whenever it suits their purpose to do so. The *Pepita* had 312 slaves on board, and would have completed her cargo to 550 in less than two hours, as four large canoes were on their way off to her from the shore when she made the *Hydra* out (some hours after dark), and stood out to sea to run for it in a most surprising manner. The African squadron, owing to Commodore Jones's admirable arrangements, have been remarkably successful of late, and fifteen prizes have arrived here since the 1st of January. Nearly half of them are very small and unimportant, and there has been only one vessel with slaves beside the *Hydra's*; but much has evidently been done tending to check this iniquitous traffic, and there is a good prospect of the principal means of its continuance being destroyed.—*Hampshire Telegraph*.

From letters dated Ascension, March 17, 1845, we learn that her Majesty's brig *Albatross*, on the morning of the 1st of this month, descried a vessel off the river Coanza, very close to the land; but from having very light winds did not close her. At noon the pinnace was sent away after her in chase. On the 2nd, at daylight, the lieutenant of the pinnace saw the vessel very plain, and was closing on her; but having a strong current to pull against, did not reach her until the prize-crew had managed to escape in their boats, with their valuables. On boarding her she proved to be the fine brig *Albany*, 300 tons, with 750 slaves on board. Leaving a master's mate in charge, the pinnace proceeded after the fugitives, but did not get up with them before they had crossed the bar; at which place a large number of natives had joined them, and commenced a brisk fire of musketry on our boat, whose crew soon returned it with interest. After a while, observing the boats beyond their reach, and judging prudence the better part of valour, they returned to the prize; when it was found that she was adrift, and her cables unshackled. These were speedily secured, and five rafts of slaves soon moored alongside, amounting in all, on board and on the rafts, to 750 in number—170 of whom were females, 100 of them about eighteen years of age, and exceedingly well looking, the rest children under twelve years of age. Three of them died on the morning she was taken. In one of the letters the writer says:—"Of all the horrible sights I ever witnessed, this was the worst; in fact, too horrible and disgusting to relate. They were all quite naked. Some of them had broken open a cask of palm oil, and covered themselves therewith, and then licked it off each other. They also got hold of some raw pieces of pork, which they ate like pigs. The stench was horrible indeed." Her Majesty's brig *Heroine* was dismasted early in the year off the Gallinas, since which, in March, she captured a fine brig of 300 tons off Loando.

A SPANISH SLAVE-SHIP.—We have received from Mr. P. Lovett, chief officer of the ship *Jessore*, Captain Meacom, which vessel arrived at New York from Canton, the following account of an incident which occurred during her passage:—"On Sunday morning, August 11, in lat. 1 40 S., and long. 30 00 W., as we were running off before the wind with a five knot breeze from the south-east, at daylight we made a sail astern, standing on the same course, and under easy sail. At half-past 10 a.m., then being about two miles distant, to our surprise he rounded to show his broadside, ran up the Spanish flag, and fired a gun, to which we responded by displaying the American ensign. He then kept off before the wind, and we both stood on the same course as before. In about fifteen minutes, having diminished the distance to about a mile and a half, he again luffed up, and threw a heavy shot, apparently from a long twenty-four pounder, which struck the water about our length ahead, passing but a few feet from the lower studding sail. We then hauled in our studding sail, and laid the maintopsail to the mast, waiting his approach. The brig then ran down till within long hailing distance, hove-to to windward, and sent her boat alongside (no hail having passed) with two officers, who requested a supply of provisions, for which they offered to pay us. They reported her name the *San Juan*, eleven days from the African coast, with 300 slaves on board, bound to St. Jago, and had been chased off the coast by an English man-of-war, before completing their full complement. The brig was apparently American-built, of about 300 tons, heavily armed with two long twenty-four or thirty-two-pound pivot guns, also four smaller ones, and manned with a crew of upwards of forty men. She was painted black outside, and had an entire new suit of sails, of an uncommon spread, even for a vessel of her class. Her foretopgallantsail had a split cloth of dark-coloured canvass from each head earing, straight down to the foot, (not down the leach,) which was evidently intended as a private signal. After ascertaining our name, cargo, destination, &c., the officer hailed the brig (she then being about her length off) and informed them accordingly, at the same time dispatching his boat with what supplies we had to spare, for which they gave us four quarter boxes of cigars, offering, however, to pay more if required. While alongside, they had a man stationed on the foretopgallantyard, who appeared to be watching every proceeding on our decks. After the detention of about forty minutes, they suffered us to proceed on our voyage, and they made sail, steering to the NNW."—*Boston Paper*.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

THE following contributions have been received since our last, and are hereby thankfully acknowledged:—

	Donations. £ s. d.	Subs. £ s. d.
Exeter Ladies' Auxiliary (by an error in the press, this amount was stated in the <i>Reporter</i> of 2nd April to be one guinea)	10 0 0	
Cleveland—Richardson, John	1 0 0	
Plymouth Ladies' Auxiliary	1 10 0	
Chesham—Pryor, S. C.		1 1 0
Rochester and Chatham Auxiliary	5 0 0	
Houghton—Brown, Potto		2 0 0
Colchester—Catchpool, Thomas	3 0 0	
Cross, J. W.	0 5 0	
Gripper, Edward	1 0 0	
Levitt, Robert	1 0 0	
Shewell, Joseph	1 0 0	

	Donations. £ s. d.	Subs. £ s. d.
Stoke Newington Ladies' Association	10 0 0	
Dublin—Bewley, Samuel		1 0 0
Bewley, Thomas		1 0 0
Bewley, Henry		1 0 0
Malone, William		1 0 0
Russell, Henry		1 0 0
Nottingham—Fox, Samuel	5 0 0	
Bigg, Susannah		1 1 0
Hull—Casson, Isabel		0 10 0
Morley, William		0 10 0
Abbot, Samuel		0 10 0
Liskeard—Allen, John		1 1 0
Allen, Frances		0 10 0
Crouch, Edward A.		0 5 0
Elliott, Mary		0 10 0
Elliott, E. and M.		0 10 0
Elliott, J. and S.		0 10 0
Ladies' Auxiliary	3 0 0	
Rundle, Samuel		1 1 0
Wadge, John		0 10 0
Todd, Rev. J.		0 5 0
Geach, Ed.		0 5 0
Tideford—Fox, Ann		0 5 0
St. Austle—Daw, Richard		0 5 0
Veale, John E.		0 10 0
Veale, Richard		0 10 0
Veale Brothers		0 10 0
Mevagissey—Stark, Thomas		0 2 6
Looe—Jackson, Clement		0 5 0
Gainsborough—Bowen, S. M.		1 0 0
Cook, William		0 2 6
Palian, Thomas		0 5 0
Rook, Thomas		0 2 6
Farrington—Reynolds, Jane	4 0 0	1 0 0
Camberwell—Burnet, Rev. John		0 10 0
Bradford—Harris, Henry		2 0 0
Priestman, John		1 0 0
Ellis, James		1 0 0
Smith D. H.		1 0 0
Harris, William		1 0 0
Aked, Thomas		1 0 0
Fison, William		1 0 0
Ecroyd, Benjamin		0 10 0
Bottomley, George		0 5 0
Dixon, James		0 10 0
Holmes, Joseph		1 0 0
Harris, Alfred		1 0 0
Osborne, George, jun.		1 0 0
Ruthmel, Mary		1 0 0
Beaumont, Thomas		0 10 0
Forster, William E.		1 0 0
Southampton—Randall, Mr.		0 10 6
Clark, Joseph	5 10 0	0 10 6
Clark, Joseph, jun.	0 10 0	0 10 6
Crabb, Rev. James		0 5 0
Barling, A.		0 5 0
Allen, J. M.		0 10 6
Forbes, A.		0 5 0
Newman, W. H.		0 5 0
T. A.		0 2 6
Marett, Charles		0 5 0
Fowler, R. S.		0 5 0
Bienven, N.		0 5 0
A Working Man		0 2 6
Laishley, George		0 10 6
Fletcher, Mr.		0 5 0
Lindoe, Dr. (Clifton)		0 10 6
Thompson, Edward		0 5 0
A. B.		0 5 0
Knight, Mr.		0 5 0
Palk, Edward		0 10 6
Newcastle-on-Tyne Emancipation Society	10 0 0	
Kingston-on-Thames—Chalk, Thomas		0 10 0
Ranyard, Samuel		0 10 0
Marsh, John		0 10 0
Olney—Smith, Ann H.		3 3 0
London—Buxton, Sir Edward N. Bart., (for general purposes)	10 10 0	
Ditto, for liquidation of debt	10 0 0	
Ogle, E. L.		1 1 0
Bellot, Mrs. L. F.		1 1 0
Beecham, Rev. John		1 0 0
Shippery, Wm.	5 0 0	
Carlisle—J. Ferguson	5 0 0	
Spalding—Simmons, W. F.		1 0 0
Massie, Wm.		2 0 0
Uppingham—Parker, T. G.		1 0 0
Cork—Beale, Ab.		1 1 0
Springfield—Gundry, Wm.		1 0 0
Calne—Gundry, Martha		0 10 6
Bath—Blair, W. T.		1 0 0
Charlbury—Albright, N.		1 0 0

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